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LITERATURE.

History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce. By W. S. Lindsay. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1874-1876.)

Two more volumes have been recently published; which complete Mr. W. S. Lindsay's interesting and instructive *History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce*. We have already given some account of that portion of the work which treats of Ancient Commerce, which may properly be said to terminate with the first expedition of Columbus in 1492, when, trusting to the mariner's compass and the astrolabe as improved by Martin Behaim of Nuremberg, the great Genoese navigator struck boldly across the Atlantic, and succeeded in reaching the frontier islands of a new world after seventy-three days of unceasing conflict with the perils of an unknown sea. Mr. Lindsay has also not omitted to do justice to the memory of our countryman Sebastian Cabot, of whom the ancient city of Bristol may well be proud, as being the undoubted discoverer of the continent of North America in 1498, his father, Juan Cabot, and himself having discovered Prince Edward's Island and Nova Scotia in their voyage of the previous year under the first letters patent of King Henry VII. Mr. Lindsay, however, seems inclined to antedate the voyage in which Sebastian Cabot reached as high as 67° N.L., but the weight of evidence, we think, is in favour of the view that he reached that high latitude in his subsequent voyage of 1517. It is not, however, only as the discoverer of the continent of North America that the claims of Sebastian Cabot to the gratitude of his countrymen have been upheld by Mr. Lindsay. Sebastian Cabot originated "the Association of the Merchant Adventurers," which broke down the monopoly of the German merchants of the Steel Yard, and he planned the first expedition, under Sir Henry Willoughby and Thomas Chancellor, into the North Sea, which found its way to the coast on which the town of Archangel has since been built, and thereby opened a direct commercial intercourse between Russia and England. Mr. Lindsay has also not omitted to notice the earliest establishment of a permanent Royal Navy in England by King Henry VIII., and the discomfiture of the great Spanish Armada of Philip II. by a collective English fleet, of which the greater part were private ships, either fitted out in compliance with the Crown's right of Maritime Conscription, or supplied voluntarily in excess of the number required by the Queen's edict.

"Though the defence," says Mr. Lindsay, "ap-

peared to be hopeless, the feeling of despair seems never to have entered the minds of the English people, who, with one accord, made the most strenuous efforts to meet the apparently overwhelming force. London, ever foremost in its loyalty, furnished Elizabeth with large sums of money, the citizens rivalling with each other in the amounts they raised, and furnishing double the number of ships and men required by the Royal edict. The same patriotic view pervaded the whole of the country, especially the sea-port towns and the merchant marine" (vol. ii., p. 145).

It is well that we should be reminded by the history of past dangers of the constitutional resources of which the Queen's Government may at any time avail itself to repel any threatened invasion of England, and to which the Declaration of Paris of 1856 has in no respect debarred England from having recourse in any great emergency of war. The Maritime Conscription is as fundamental an element of the English State-Constitution as the Military Conscription is of the Continental State-Systems, and England is in no way debarred by the Declaration of Paris from calling out her Merchant Marine in time of war, and placing it under properly commissioned commanders as a force auxiliary to the Queen's ships. What England has renounced under that Declaration is the practice of granting "letters of marque and reprisal" to the subjects of foreign States as well as to her own subjects, which has given countenance to a species of marauding on the high seas out of keeping with the civilisation of the present day. Mr. Lindsay has given a graphic sketch of the excesses to which the ancient practice of "letters of marque" gave rise in the seventeenth century.

"Nor did they," he says, "confine themselves to depredations at sea. Some of the crews of the more daring cruisers harassed the Spanish coast, sacking villages, plundering mansions, pilfering churches and convents, and had, moreover, the audacity to drink success to piracy out of the silver sacramental vessels which they had stolen. If not in all cases furnished with the Queen's Letter 'to burn, plunder, and destroy,' they too frequently exercised that calling, and if ever England was justified in 'claiming the Dominion of the Narrow Seas,' she had at no period of her history greater claims to it than when these freebooters in vessels of every kind poured forth from her ports and scoured the English Channel like a flock of locusts, an eternal disgrace to the name they bore, and to the flag under which they had been launched for peaceful purposes on the ocean" (vol. ii. p. 140).

England witnessed the reverse of the medal in the latter part of the last century, when the British Channel swarmed with French cruisers sallying forth with the tide from every petty port of Normandy and of Brittany, and preying upon British commerce under colour of letters of marque issued to them by the Government of the United States of America, the independence of which States had not been yet recognised by Great Britain, while Great Britain was still nominally at peace with France.

Mr. Lindsay has passed in review the English voyages of discovery of the eighteenth century: Dampier, one of the most daring of the Buccaneers and the first English explorer of the coast of New Holland and of New Guinea; Anson, famous for his cruise in the *Centurion* round the world; Byron, who made the first careful survey

of Magellan's Straits, and who was wrecked in the *Wager* on the coast of Chili; Wallis, who first gave an account of Otaheite, and Carteret, who discovered Pitcairn's Island; and last but not least of all, Captain James Cook, who was despatched in 1768 with Sir Joseph Banks and Dr. Solander to Otaheite to make an observation of the transit of the planet Venus across the disk of the sun, and in the same voyage afterwards discovered New Zealand and New South Wales, and who in his third voyage of discovery along the western coast of North America passed into Behring's Straits, and reached as high as 70° 44' N.L., "where his further progress was completely barred by a wall of solid ice."

Mr. Lindsay has devoted his third volume exclusively to the modern history of merchant shipping, having introduced the subject already in the latter part of his second volume, and he has brought together a large amount of varied and valuable information in a very agreeable manner and in a very readable form. We doubt, however, whether his general readers will travel with him through the Parliamentary debates on the Repeal of the English Navigation Laws without some sense of fatigue. These debates are doubtless very curious and very instructive, as showing how men of high capacity and great experience in commerce missed their way entirely in their forecast of the consequences of the repeal of those laws; and it may be justly matter of self-congratulation to Mr. Lindsay that he was one of the few who were not dismayed at the prospect of competing—unequally, as it was then supposed—with the United States of America in the China trade, and that he led the van, in company with the late Mr. Richard Green, in carrying that competition to a successful issue. Of the spirit of the latter eminent shipowner and shipbuilder Mr. Lindsay gives an interesting illustration. Mr. T. H. Farrer, of the Board of Trade, was present at a public dinner in the City of London in aid of one of the "Marine Charities," and recounts the anecdote in a note addressed to Mr. Lindsay. There was at that time a great deal of irritation and discouragement among the chief London shipowners, and the Secretary of Legation of the United States had addressed the company in a speech which was not calculated to raise their spirits. When the turn of Mr. Richard Green came to speak:—

"We have heard," he said, "a good deal about the British Lion and the American Eagle, and the way in which they are going to lie down together. Now, I do not know anything about all that, but this I do know, that we British shipowners have at last sat down to play a fair and open game with the Americans, and, by Jove, we will trump them."

The feelings of the other shipowners present may well be imagined. Mr. Lindsay goes on to say: "And I may add he *did* trump them, for shortly afterwards he built a ship called the *Challenger* to match their *Challenge*, which thoroughly eclipsed her" (iii. p. 293).

Mr. Lindsay's third volume will be found to be a very convenient "Handy-Book" for all persons who are desirous of becoming conversant with the various questions affecting the interests of merchant shipping which have occupied the attention of Parliament during

the last few years. We have already alluded to the English Navigation Laws based on the celebrated "Navigation Act" of the Protector Cromwell. The object of that Act had been to secure to England the whole carrying trade of Asia, Africa, and America at a time when the interests of British colonists had no place in the question. The policy of Cromwell's Act, long believed to be the *Charta Maritima* of this country, was successfully denounced by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons in 1849, while the affirmative vote of the House of Lords in favour of its repeal counted the first Duke of Wellington among its supporters. The despondency consequent on the repeal of this Act was at first alarming, but within three years a reaction took place: freights, in many instances, advanced 100 per cent., and English merchants could not find sufficient tonnage to supply the orders pouring in upon them from every part of the world. Mr. Lindsay pronounces a deserved eulogy upon Mr. T. H. Farrer, of the Board of Trade, for his services to the country in preparing a variety of legislative measures for the improvement of the condition of our mercantile marine, and for his successful efforts in procuring the adoption of Mr. Moorsom's system of measuring the tonnage of merchant ships, which is adopted in the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854. "This admirable mode of admeasurement," Mr. Lindsay remarks, "has also been adopted in a recent Congress as the basis of ascertaining the tonnage on which ships of any nation are to pay dues on passing the Suez Canal." Mr. Lindsay might have added, in paying a just compliment to Mr. Moorsom, that the adoption of his method of measurement has not removed all the difficulties which have arisen between the shipowners generally and the managers of the canal, as the more difficult problem still awaits solution—namely, what is the proper method of calculating the effective capacity (*la capacité utilisable*) as distinguished from the entire capacity (*la capacité totale*) of a steam vessel. It is the practical solution of this problem which is at present contested, and which has given rise to the so-called "Question of the Transit Dues of the Suez Canal." Mr. Lindsay has not overlooked the "Unseaworthy Ships Commission" and its two Reports, which he praises highly; but he is disposed to think that there has been too much legislation of late in matters of detail as regards the commercial marine, and, although he commends the Board of Trade for its abstinence from interfering unduly with shipbuilders and owners of vast experience in their mode of managing their business, he is of opinion that the manner of conducting the Board of Trade enquiries into losses and casualties at sea in the present day is not such as to command general confidence, and he concurs in the last Report of the "Unseaworthy Ships Commissioners," which recommends certain modifications in that system.

Mr. Lindsay's fourth and last volume contains a very complete history of the origin and growth of Steam Navigation. Mr. Lindsay has done justice to the memory of Robert Fulton, of the United States, as the first person who "commenced and continued to run the steam-ship, which now traverses

every river, every coast, and every ocean, and which of all the inventions of man is the mightiest harbinger of peace amongst nations the world has ever seen." It is true that James Watt may have anticipated Fulton in discovering in 1769 how a steam-engine might be made available to propel a ship; and that in 1780 he may have invented the "Sun and Planet Motion," a necessary step to enable the steam-engine to be of really practical service in propelling vessels; and that Symington may have produced "the first practical steamboat," on the Firth and Clyde canal in 1802; but the merit of first permanently developing the power and usefulness of the marine steam-engine belongs, in Mr. Lindsay's opinion, to Robert Fulton, and the nickname of "Fulton's Folly" is the best certificate to posterity that the *Clermont*, which Fulton launched on the Hudson River in 1807, was a step in advance of other appliances of steam-power. The late Lord Lytton relates somewhere an anecdote of the late Duke of Wellington, who, when Lord Lytton had the indiscretion to ask the aged warrior publicly how he came to defeat all the ablest generals of Napoleon, replied: "I don't know how it was; each of them had a talent of his own in which he was perhaps superior to myself, but I had more power of combination than any of them." Fulton's merit, or possibly his demerit in the opinion of some English engineers, consisted mainly in the fact that he combined the inventions of others; but Mr. Lindsay justly observes: "If his was a combination of the discoveries of others, if he was a 'quack,' it was only on a small scale compared to those persons who combine the inventions of men of all nations in the magnificent steam-engines of the present day." Mr. Lindsay has brought together a well-selected mass of information in detail on the subject of the various stages of invention by which "fire and water" have been constrained to lay aside their natural enmity and to work together as peaceable "yoke-fellows" in the service of man, and his work seems to be written in a spirit of great fairness; yet by an accident he has overlooked, in his account of the various efforts to bring the screw-propeller into practical use, the claims of Mr. Henry Wimshurst to have his name associated with those of Captain Everson and Mr. Pettit Smith (iv. p. 116) in their first successful application of the screw-propeller on a large scale to a vessel called the *Archimedes* in 1838. Mr. Wimshurst has himself drawn up a statement of the part which he took in promoting the success of this experiment, which he has published in the *Nautical Magazine* of last May. "Cuique suum" is the rightful motto of inventors, but inventors should remember that it was not the first finder of the diamond, but he who first polished it and adapted it to use, who made it practically of value. We venture to suggest to Mr. Lindsay that the fourth volume of his work treats of a subject so special and complete in itself that it may well deserve his consideration whether it should not be published by him hereafter in a separate form, as a "History of Steam Navigation."

TRAVERS TWISS.

Reminiscences of an Old Draper. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1876.)

THIS quaint little book might have been written as an illustration of the well-known saying of the old Scotch trader to his young relative about to start in business, when, wishing to impress on him the truth of the proverb, "Honesty is the best policy," he added, "and ye may tak' my word in the matter, for I ha' tried baith." The narrator of the story believes himself to be "the oldest draper now living in London," and he cannot be far wrong, for he started, as a boy of thirteen, at the beginning of the century, in a draper's shop in Whitechapel. He remembers when Todd, a haberdasher in Fore Street, gave his daughter to one of his young men named Morrison, and when the late head and founder of the great wholesale house in Old Change was "young William Leaf." He was evidently born for a dry-goods salesman. Before he was fifteen he had asserted his capacity by selling an ugly old green shawl, price 4*l.*, which had been in the shop ever since it was opened, and was the most highly "tinged" article in the establishment, a premium of 8*s.* being the reward of the seller. This our hero pocketed by inducing a sailor to buy it as a "really useful and valuable article." "Little rascal as I was," he writes, "I saw my chance." By such practices he was earning 100*l.* a year, or more than double his salary, at the age of fifteen, and, as one of the largest earners of these "tinges," or premiums on the sale of bad goods, in the establishment, soon drew the attention of, and became a great favourite with, his master. On the occasion of a fire in the shop, which burnt a few yards of common lace hanging near the window, he suggested to his master to have a "selling-off" of damaged stock, which seems to have been the first of the kind in London. The whole rascally operation from the issuing of handbills headed "Fire! fire!! fire!!!" is very graphically told, and worth studying (pp. 31 to 41). It has hardly been improved on in any respect since. One is glad to hear that the Whitechapel draper, who introduced and became enamoured of this kind of business, destroyed his regular trade by it, and was in the end ruined. But our hero had left him before this happened, and became chief "shawls' man," first at Lord Mayor Waithman's shop in Fleet Street, then at Everington's on Ludgate Hill, marts much frequented by the aristocracy. While here he was in the habit of promenading on Sundays as "a buck" in Kensington Gardens, and saluting his master's fashionable customers, in the morning in top-boots and buck-skins, in the afternoon in knee-breeches and silk stockings, a neck-handkerchief with a stiffener specially made for him, as his neck was unusually long, and an olive-green tail-coat with gilt buttons. No wonder that he had the satisfaction of a "hearty laugh the other day" when he came across his own likeness in one of Mr. Cruikshank's earliest caricatures.

But dress was his only extravagance, and from the first he saved his money, lived virtuously outside the shop, and read Homer and Ovid in translations, and Fielding,

Sterne, Smollett, and Richardson in his leisure hours, which habit no doubt accounts for the ease of his style, and the general excellence of his English. We have no space to follow his career, which took him to Chatham, Bristol, Merthyr, Manchester, in each of which he gathered new experience in dry goods. This he brought to bear at last, when he returned to London and started for himself in Holborn, where he had hard work to escape ruin, as the trade was already drifting westward. The ingenuity and pluck with which he met his difficulties turned what threatened to be a disaster into a success, which one cannot help sympathising with, even though in part earned by such practices as filling long ranges of shelves with dummies, carefully packed and labelled, so as "to make a most gallant appearance of fresh stock in first-rate condition." He quotes the proverb that "a man is never beaten till he beats himself," *à propos* of this part of his own life, which is certainly an instructive comment on the text. In short, the man is an excellent specimen of a class which has done much to make England what she is, in her strength as well as in her weakness—born traders, resolute, energetic, never losing a chance of getting knowledge, or pushing business, but not scrupulous about the means by which business is to be pushed, and with a decided taint of what there is no name for but snobism. The snobism and sharp practice wear off with the best of the class, as they did with our hero, who confesses towards the end of his book that he ought to have been thrashed for them in his early days, and who abandoned all trickery when he migrated from Holborn to the West End shop in which he ultimately made his fortune. On the other hand, zeal for and interest in their work, and dislike of seeing it blundered, retain their strength in such men to the end. Thus, long after his retirement, whenever the "old draper" sees a badly-dressed window, he tells us, he feels tempted to jump into it and set it out to advantage. It is this zeal, leading him to speak of and treat his trade as a fine art, and the ingenuousness of his confessions, which give the sketch its interest. Its value consists in the emphatic protests against all trickery and puffing with which the book closes, and the testimony that (notwithstanding appearances) the drapery trade is in a far sounder state in these matters than it was forty or fifty years ago, "that the new are better than the old days, which have passed away never to be experienced again." T. HUGHES.

University and other Sermons. By J. B. Mozley, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford, and Canon of Christchurch. (London: Rivingtons, 1876.)

FROM whatever point of view an observer of religious thought in England may pass judgment on the present parties in the Church, it is seldom that he has a good word to spare for the most distinctively English of them all—that which has, as a matter of history, the best claim to the inheritance of all that is greatest in Anglican theology. The "high and dry Church" is far from

being yet extinct; it would number an absolute majority, probably, among the mass of the parochial clergy, still more probably among the devout male laity above forty years old; but its vitality as a school of thought seems gone—it is only kept together by habits, and only recruited, if at all, by the personal example of some of its individual representatives. It has scarcely any intellectual basis, defensible on speculative grounds; it has little spiritual power, except over those reared under its continuous and exclusive influence; its recent literature is scanty, and it seems to be more and more impotent to guide or moderate the course of the national mind, but can only utter Cassandra prophecies, as the Church is hurried along by the conflicting impulses of more courageous spirits.

But while exclusive Anglicanism is thus tending, not undeservedly, to disappear as a form of opinion, there is a danger of the disappearance at the same time of its moral temper—of that sober, high-minded seriousness, and deep sense of responsibility for truth, which is the true greatness of Anglican divines from Hooker to Butler, and which was the strength of Butler's disciples before the expansion of his principles by the Tractarians passed into explosion. It is therefore opportune that a man like Dr. Mozley should appear, in a conspicuous position, and what ought to be an influential one, as the representative of this fast-vanishing spirit. We have here a mind instinct with the best temper of Butler's school, living and active in mature vigour in presence of the questions of our own day: and the influence of such a mind is likely to perpetuate that temper, as the writings of the master seem now to fail to do, because those who are excited about questions of the day, and feel rightly that they have an importance not of the day only, are yet unable to recognise the same questions as they appeared to a different generation. It is seldom that an author with so vigorous a personality as Dr. Mozley's can be so adequately characterised by referring him to a particular school. He is too thoughtful a writer to allow us to suppose that he has learnt nothing except what he learnt from Butler: still more unjust would it be to describe him as merely an old-fashioned Churchman. But that intellectual self-restraint which is one of the best and most constant features of the school has been exercised by him in the repression of those opinions which are individual with him, and not direct outgrowths of the Anglican spirit or the Butlerian method. To the theological or ecclesiastical controversies of our own time—so far as they are within the pale of Christianity—there is scarcely a reference: the first and poorest sermon in the volume, on "The Roman Council," is almost the sole exception. An ethical teaching, manly and at the same time humbling, and a conviction of the main doctrines of religion, too deep to feel the necessity of reiterating them to believers, or to share even for a moment the attitude of those who question them—such is the pervading spirit of all the Sermons.

And the moral nobility of this spirit is one which every reader must recognise:

nevertheless, there is a certain deficiency in it, both on the spiritual and the intellectual side, that qualifies the unreserved approval which the preacher has almost earned. Except in the sermon on "The Ascension" (a Cathedral not a University sermon), there is nothing that can be called devotional fervour in the book: though the doctrine on "the Atonement" is only too much in harmony with orthodox tradition, there is a real sense in which the charge might be justified that his preaching is not evangelical. Of course it does not follow that it ought to be so: a preacher, especially a University preacher, has other things to do besides commending the Christian faith to his hearers by his eloquence, or even his piety; but, when the object sought is the specific one of commending the Christian faith to hearers not necessarily ready to accept it, it does appear a mistake to leave out of view its most winning characteristics. There is a far greater impression of intellectual power produced by these sermons than by an equal number of Dr. Liddon's; but it is not too much to say that one sermon of his might dispel the scepticism of a dozen undergraduates sooner than these eighteen would meet the difficulties of one. And, after all, sermons are rhetorical works, and the end of rhetoric is to persuade.

Even the moral tone of the book has, to a certain extent, the same weakness as the devotional: it is very noble, but it is rather hard. The sermon on "The Unspoken Judgment of Mankind" begins by a just statement of the antinomy that "he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet himself is judged of no man:" while yet his Master bids him "judge not, that he be not judged." But there is a painful inadequacy in the explanation given—that the judgment which is forbidden is only the utterance of the judgment which must be formed: charity is allowed *λογίζεσθαι τὸ κακόν*, if only she will lock up the account of it in her breast. And on the subject of "War," though much that is said is acute and reasonable, there seems a disposition to compromise the high claims of Christianity: true as it may be that in the present moral condition of Christendom wars of progress as well as wars of self-defence are legitimate, it does not follow that the possibility of such wars is to be tolerated as consistent with the Christian moral ideal.

In the more argumentative sermons, on the other hand, there seems to be a deficiency, not in feeling, but in the power of distinguishing feelings from facts, or acquired feelings from ultimate instincts. On the question of "eternal life," the term being used rather in the philosophic than the Christian sense, we find reproduced Butler's doctrine of the scientific legitimacy of probable reasoning: and so far, no doubt, the argument is sound against men like Matthew Arnold, who say it is unscientific to assent to Christian eschatology, because its doctrines "cannot be verified"—until the end of the world shall have come, either as they teach or otherwise. But admitting that it is scientifically right to believe in the invisible world, if there be evidence for it, even though not that "scientific" evidence which includes verification, then we come to

the question, Does such evidence exist at all? The only evidence Dr. Mozley offers is the assertion of the very facts which the Positivist and the Materialist question or deny, "to begin with, that our bodies are not *we*—not our proper persons." It may be questioned whether this fundamental proposition would have commended itself to the author of 1 Cor. xv. as much as it did to the author of the *Analogy*; but it certainly will not commend itself to those against whom the doctrine of a future life has to be defended now. Butler's argument was legitimate, his appeal to facts was indeed truly scientific, as a protest against the loose optimistic or sceptical assumptions of the deists of his day; but the materialism of our time rests on a basis of facts, too; and if its advocates have not succeeded in explaining away the whole group of facts relied on by the Christian apologist, they have at least imposed on him the necessity for a view of the whole case which shall correlate their facts with his.

Still stronger objections may be taken to the sermon on "The Atonement," because here facts are misconceived of which it is really possible to give a scientifically adequate account. It is assumed that the principle of expiation of guilt by a substitute is involved in all primitive institutions of sacrifice, and this is a theory which the science of primitive history may be said to have definitely refuted. The primitive Aryan or Semite *did*, according to all our evidence, think that his god would "eat bulls' flesh, or drink the blood of goats," if presented in a sublimated form; so, when he killed a bull or goat for his own eating, he "poured the blood (which was the life) upon the earth as water;" he "failed not to burn the fat presently," before either he or the priest directing him durst "take as much as his soul desired." It was doubtless the development of this custom when a whole animal was burnt for a sacrifice of sweet savour to the god; still later was the suggestion that such a sacrifice might appease his well-grounded anger against the offerer. And, even when the "burnt-offering," and "sin-offering" were thus differentiated from the primitive "peace-offering" and from each other, the sin-offering was still in general conceived rather as a fine paid to God than a symbolical endurance of death inflicted by God.

Altogether, for good and evil, this volume gives the impression of belonging to a past generation. But none but a very superstitious believer in human progress will think it the less valuable on that account. Our generation if it has learnt much has forgotten much; neither is it yet certain that it has true or abiding knowledge of the things which it seems to have learnt. At any rate, there is great scope in our day for the work of the teacher who will turn the hearts of the children to their fathers.

WILLIAM HENRY SIMCOX.

THE University Court of St. Andrew's has elected the Rev. William Knight, of Dundee, to the chair of Moral Philosophy in the United College, rendered vacant by the appointment of Prof. Flint to the Divinity chair in the University of Edinburgh.

EPOCHS OF HISTORY.

The First Two Stuarts, and the Puritan Revolution (1603-1660). By Samuel Rawson Gardiner. With Four Maps.

The Fall of the Stuarts and Western Europe from 1678 to 1697. By the Rev. E. Hale, M.A. (London: Longmans & Co., 1876.)

THE question that most naturally suggests itself in connexion with volumes like these is—what will they do for the student that has not already been competently done? Are they an improvement in any important respect on what may be found in other histories of a popular character? An endeavour briefly to answer this question will probably be the best service we can render our readers.

In one sense, nothing is easier than to compile an abstract of the history of any period; in another, there are few things more difficult. Very moderate industry and research will suffice for the production of an abridgment of a larger work, wherein statements have been verified by occasional consultation of the original sources, and detailed narrative has been reduced to more concise statement; but to produce a faithful miniature which preserves the original features in just harmony and proportion, and is to a more extended design very much what a photograph of a village taken at a distance of half a mile is to one taken only 300 yards away, is a task requiring no little care and discrimination.

It is the distinguishing merit of Mr. Gardiner's volume that it has been written by one who combines with a thorough knowledge of the facts the faculty of understanding the different points of view from which the leading controversies were regarded by the chief actors of the period. His aim, accordingly, has been, not so much to narrate what may seem of most importance when estimated from a nineteenth-century standpoint, as to explain the true connexion between seventeenth-century theorisation and seventeenth-century events. Nothing will better enable us to estimate the value of his work than a comparison of its treatment with that adopted in the 146 pages relating to the same period in Mr. Green's *History of the English People*. Of the two, Mr. Green has somewhat the larger amount of space at his disposal, but his omissions are serious. He gives, for example, no account of the Hampton Court Conference, fraught though its failure was with the gravest political consequences; he makes no allusion to King James's desire, and the Commons' disinclination, for a legislative union of England and Scotland; he vouchsafes no explanation of the constitutional importance of the Commons' right of impeachment, as revived against Mompesson and Bacon; the alliance with France, the expedition under Mansfeld for the recovery of the Palatinate, are passed by unnoticed. In the volume before us all these facts are brought distinctly before the reader, while the comments throughout are such as only an exceptional acquaintance with the period could have enabled the writer to supply. The criticism strikes us, indeed, as being of a higher order than that which fills up so large a space in Mr. Green's *History*.

Mr. Green's portraiture of James I., which is really little more than a copy of that in Macaulay's brilliant but immature essay on Hampden, at once prepossesses the reader against the unfortunate monarch. Mr. Gardiner, who tells us nothing about James having "goggle eyes" and a big head, assesses his virtues and defects more equably. He does not disguise his shortcomings, but, in spite of Puritan scandal, he inclines to the conclusion that his life was "virtuous and upright," and that, though infelicitous in his choice of means, "he really wished to do right to all men." As regards the relations of England to Europe, while holding that the Commons were "right in the main," he allows that James "doubtless knew more than they did of Continental politics," and he is evidently in no way disposed to deny that with the patriotism of the Protestant party there was combined a large amount of ignorant and bigoted prejudice. The action of the Commons throughout James's reign, taken as a whole, was a noble struggle for freedom, but it often breathed a spirit of the harshest intolerance. The same Parliament of 1621 that asserted so valiantly its own right "to propound, treat, reason, and bring to conclusion," also petitioned for the enforced recall of all children of Catholics then receiving their education abroad, and their consignment to Protestant teachers.*

In Mr. Green's opinion, James's theory of the Divine right of Kings was "founded simply on a blunder," and, after quoting the celebrated parallel instituted by the monarch himself between Divine and kingly claims to immunity from criticism, he leaves the quotation, in all its isolated absurdity, to the scorn of the reader. It is certain that a like "blunder" was made and insisted upon by Louis XIV. with at least equal emphasis; but Mr. Gardiner's comments enable us to see the question somewhat differently:—

"It is easy to look upon these words as a mere absurdity. Yet not only are they worthy of consideration, but they will be found to furnish the key to much of the subsequent history. The fact is that no nation can be governed by general rules. These rules, being the work of fallible human creatures, cannot possibly embrace all points of difficulty that may arise. When new difficulties come up for settlement there must be some living intelligence to meet them, to frame new rules, to enlarge the old ones, and to see that persons entrusted with carrying them out do not misuse their authority. With us this living intelligence is looked for in Parliament, or in Ministers acting in responsibility to Parliament. Under the Tudor constitution new rules could only be laid down by the combined operation of King and Parliament. But it was considered to be the king's business to keep the machine of government in working order, and to make special provision for temporary emergencies, without responsibility to anyone. James's vague language doubtless implied assumptions of a dangerous kind, but in the main he meant no more than that the limits to the exercise of this special power were in themselves indefinable. The power must be used when occasion called it out, and no one could say beforehand how it would be right for him to act in any given circumstances."

This passage appears to us an excellent example of true historical appreciation of the significance and merits of an exploded theory. Bacon himself, we imagine, would have been

* *Calendar of State Papers, 1621-3, Dec. 3, 1621.*

inclined to congratulate the writer on his ability to view the question through a medium of "dry light."

While, again, Mr. Gardiner's attention to the general facts is more carefully sustained and his criticism often the sounder, he has also been at considerable pains in his account of any special episode to give all the material details clearly and tersely—succinctly, of necessity, but with no important feature omitted. It is one of the main defects of Mr. Green's volume, on the other hand, that he is sometimes in so much haste to put the reader in possession of his inferences from the facts that he omits to give the facts themselves. A comparison of the accounts of the Gunpowder Plot, of Raleigh's expedition up the Orinoco, and of Wentworth's rule in Ireland, as given in the two respective works, will illustrate this difference.

We should hardly expect to find in Mr. Hale's volume criticism of a kind that is to be looked for only from one who has long and closely studied the original authorities for the period, but his experience as an educator enables him to discern what is most wanted at his hands, and, though mainly following Macaulay, he occasionally exercises an independent judgment. The opening chapters explain with great clearness the position and policy of Louis XIV. in relation to Europe, and this collateral illustration is well sustained throughout the volume. The important distinction between the moderate Catholicism of Innocent XI. and the policy and schemes of the Jesuits as supported by Louis and James (a distinction entirely lost sight of by Mr. Green) is carefully pointed out.

In fine, these two volumes appear to be very much what an introductory series should be. A school history should be free, as far as possible, from violent partialities, special pleadings, or highly-coloured portraiture. Once set before a schoolboy a distinctly unfavourable picture of an individual, and his sympathies are forthwith bespoken, and he probably altogether foregoes what ought to be the most beneficial part of his work—the attempt to estimate men and their doings for himself in the light of the simple facts. Wise parents do not point out to their children all the defects of grown-up people or all the ways of the "wicked world" about them; and wise instructors will keep back much that serves to add to the appreciation of personal character until the opportunity comes for a more detailed study of the men and manners of the period.

J. BASS MULLINGER.

Clouds in the East; Travels and Adventures on the Perso-Turkoman Frontier. By Valentine Baker. (London: Chatto & Windus, 1876.)

It is strange that among the many articles on the Oriental policy of England which have appeared in quarterlies and monthlies, and the gist of which has found utterance in the correspondence of the daily press, so little attention has been drawn to the significance of Eastern Persia, where, between the Caspian and Herat, lies a frontier of ex-

ceeding interest to the politician (and perhaps the general reader) as well as to the geographer. The author of the present volume, rightly arguing that former travellers had, as a rule, only crossed the said frontier, but had not examined it laterally, determined in some way to remedy the defective exploration by following the skirt of the mountain range immediately overlooking the Turkman desert. This line may be illustrated by the two points of Sarakhs in the east and Kizil Arvát in the west; and the intervening localities actually visited were within the section extending from Kalát-i-Nádir to the western side of the Darah-gaz districts. A still more recent exploration of Kalát-i-Nádir and the Darah-gaz, by the Hon. Captain Napier, has added to the information already gained on these regions; and supplied the material of a paper read at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society in January last.

Colonel Baker, accompanied by Captain Clayton of the 9th Lancers and Lieutenant Gill of the Royal Engineers, left England in April, 1873, and passing through Vienna and Constantinople, reached Poti, on the eastern shores of the Black Sea, early in the following month. Hence, taking the newly-laid rail so far as completed to Tiflis, they availed themselves of a necessary detour at that capital to penetrate to the Dariel pass and visit Vladikavkas. There is little more detailed description given of the road from Kutais to Tiflis than that "Suram is very prettily situated in a rich hilly country about 3,000 feet above the sea;" but this brevity is attributable to the matter-of-fact locomotives, which keep from the ken of passengers the picturesque and beautiful in detail, ignoring, or admitting mere nominal reference to, Rhions or Kúrs, a Garganitz and a Gori. The account of Tiflis itself is not flattering, though correct. Something is said of its museum, its club-gardens, and little Russian theatre; nothing of its club and charming opera-house: but then, the last, a perfect *bijou* in its way, was probably closed. From the Georgian capital the travellers proceeded to Báku, there embarking on the Russian Caspian steamer. They touched, as usual, at Lenkorán, Enzali, and Mashhad-i-Sar, and effected a landing at Parivale or Gaz, whence they made a short land journey to Astrabad, returning to the Russian settlement of Ashuráda. After visiting the mouths of the Atrak and neighbouring coast, they turned towards Tehran, which city they reached, *viâ* Ashraf, Sári, and Firuzkúh, on June 18.

For nearly two whole months two of the travellers remained in summer quarters at Gulahak, or amid the mountains of the Albúrz, enjoying beautiful scenery, a charming climate, and out-of-door sport, of which trout-fishing was a main feature. One of the party was unfortunately compelled by ill-health to return to England. It was not until August 16 that the author and his remaining companion fairly left the refreshing waters of the Lár, and moved again towards the south-east corner of the Caspian. A few exciting days of travel and adventure, during which were visited Amol, Barfarúsh, Chashma-i-Ali, and Damghán, brought them to Shahrúd, a town on the high road to

Astrabad, Tehran, and Mashhad. They reached, moreover, the last-named of these towns by the end of September, and marched a stage towards Herat on October 5. Sickness, however, combined with other causes to change the route proposed. Returning to Mashhad, they set out again two or three days later, taking this time a course to the north-east in lieu of south-east.

The hundred pages or so succeeding the chronicle of departure from Mashhad form the most important portion of the volume. They narrate a journey to and from the Atrak through a region of great interest, and, as the account of eye-witnesses and not second-hand, it is of especial value. From Mashhad the explorers made a short ten-mile march, crossing the Kashf-rúd; then, entering the mountains, they passed on to Kardeh, "like all the villages in this country, a little fort." For the following march to Wardeh a short extract will be appropriate. The gorge they are threading to the N.N.E.—

"gradually became narrower and narrower until in some places it was not twenty feet wide, with rocks coming sheer down on either side; a mere cleft in the mountains. The ascent was continuous, and at last we broke rather suddenly upon beautiful mountain slopes with a very considerable amount of vegetation, and the juniper-tree standing, not in woods but singly, or in small patches. It looked a lovely country for game; but, except partridges, we saw nothing. There were high mountains both to our right and left front; great majestic ridges of rock, sometimes taking fantastic shapes, and with their strata running vertically, as if disturbed by some gigantic upheaval. In places the sides of these mountains were sheer precipices, while the ridges looked perfectly sharp."

The next stage to Wardeh was Kalát, better known as Kalát-Nádiri. Beheld from without, this place is a stupendous stronghold. From within, it is a valley surrounded by mountains. On the way Lieutenant Gill narrowly escaped a serious injury from the accidental discharge of his fowling-piece. As it was, some fourteen shots penetrated his riding-boots and inflicted flesh wounds. The wonderful fortress is thus described (pp. 201-2):—

"The walls are mountains of from 800 to 1,200 feet high, and with a sheer perpendicular scarp between 300 and 600 feet; sometimes more. It is an irregular oblong in form, about twenty-one miles long by from five to seven broad. There are only five entrances, through narrow natural scarps, and these are fortified. Three of them are on the northern face, one is on the eastern, and another on the southern. The ground enclosed within is very rich, and it might be a perfect garden and self-supplying. The stream which we had followed runs right through the place, in at the southern entrance and out at one of the northern. There is also some cultivation outside the work; and, after being used for irrigating a considerable tract of land, this stream is allowed to revert to its natural channel, whereby it forms the main supply of water used by the inhabitants. Hence, I imagine, the great unhealthiness of the place. But there are several springs within the fortress, and one just outside the southern gate. Moreover, there are numbers of old *kanáts*, and I have no doubt that an ample supply of good water could thus be obtained for the cultivation of the whole interior. That it once had a much larger population, and was in a more prosperous state, the numberless remains of villages testify. . . . The Persians maintain a

battalion of regular troops here, besides some irregular cavalry and a few guns. The battalion now occupying it had arrived from Tehran 900 strong, only three months before. Since that time 300 had died of typhus, and the remainder were in the most miserable condition. The officers had all deserted their men and gone off, and those men who had any money had done likewise; but the mass were left without pay. About 200 still occupied the houses near the southern gate, and a sort of guard was kept up; but the men were in a ghastly state, and lay here and there dying of the fatal scourge. We hastened on for about six miles inside the fortress, until we reached the town, in which was situated the residence of the Governor."

The palace of Nadir Shah (Imárat-i-Nádir), now a ruin of burnt brick, situated on high undulating downs north-west of the town, was not forgotten. To reach it the author ascended the hills (always, be it remembered, *within the fortress*), "by a zigzag but fair path, to the height of 1,500 feet." North of the ruined building is yet higher ground, along which he was riding at a canter, when a summons to pull up from the Kúrd guide disclosed a precipice of 1,000 feet immediately below. This was the wall of the covert. All travellers agree in the charm and interest of the view here presented; and we strongly recommend the reader of these explorations to realise the geographical situation contemplated by the writer in his earnest, if sparse, descriptions recorded at page 201 of his book, and continued up to page 209 *passim*.

We cannot recall any previous account of the direct route traversed from Kalát-Nádiri to Darah-gaz, or to its capital, Muhammadabad, into which place the strangers were escorted by a hundred horsemen. It lay through mountains and among streams, ending in a plain at foot of the range marked "Gulistán" in the map, or eastern section of the Kuren and Kopat Dágh; and before its termination there must have been considerable risk run of encounter with Turkmáns. Space will not admit of more than passing allusion to the Darah-gaz district, rendered prosperous by wise local government, or to the road from Muhammadabad to Daringa, and thence to the Kuchán valley and Shirwán. The source of the Atrak*—a river mentioned more than forty years ago by Burnes as rising near Kuchán—is pleasantly illustrated by one of the many coloured drawings interspersed through the volume under notice. From Shirwán, the main road between Mashhad and Tehran was reached *via* Já-jarm. The return to the Shah's capital was accomplished before the end of November; and on December 1 the Russian steamer was awaited at Enzali on the Caspian for the conveyance of the homeward-bound.

Testimony is given to the carefulness of Lieutenant Gill's observations, as well as to the patience and perseverance with which every angle in the road was noted, or other detail worth recording jotted down in his journal; and if proof of the value of this

officer's work were needed, other than afforded by these pages and the maps accompanying, the interesting paper read before the British Association at Belfast in 1864 would be more than sufficient.* We could say much of certain living characters described—of their talk and opinions, valuable in one sense and worthless in another; we could add something of the servant Shaab, his good points as well as faults and failings—but indulgence in any such retrospect would inevitably entail transgression of reasonable limits.

One word, however, in conclusion. The political character of this book, signified in its title and professed in its Introductory Chapter, renders of secondary consideration its value as a narrative of travel and adventure. In dealing, therefore, mainly with its instructive or entertaining features, we take it at a certain disadvantage, and more or less ignore its weightier purport. If on the present occasion, we have approached it in such light, it has been with no wish to shirk the *gravamen* of the subject offered, but rather because the "clouds" of which we are warned have been observed and reported on by regulation-pilots, whose reports, whatever their nature, have been declared satisfactory and conclusive. Not that we really trust the opinions of certified professionals a whit more than of practised outsiders; but that there are signs of a coming good time when all competent judges will be invited to express their views, and we believe the situation to be somewhat favourable for a pause. Under any circumstances a passenger volunteering advice to the ship's captain and officers runs a risk of that formidable kind of snub which, administered on the quarter-deck, is proof against a reply or remonstrance. As for the man at the wheel, if not to be addressed under ordinary circumstances, what should be our reticence now that the general horizon presents appearances yet more urgent than the cloud overhanging the mountains north of the Atrak?

F. J. GOLDSMID.

Mythology; Illustrated chiefly from the Myths and Legends of Greece. By A. S. Murray. (Chambers's Elementary Science Manuals. Edinburgh: W. & R. Chambers, 1876.)

THIS little book differs from Mr. Murray's former work (reviewed in the ACADEMY of April 4, 1874) partly by presenting the same matter in a much smaller compass, and partly by the attempt to treat the subject in a more scientific manner. As he says in a preliminary note, he has attempted "to explain the principles on which the myths and legends of all nations have been formed, by illustrations drawn chiefly from the mythology of Greece." The readers of his former book will be prepared to find the subject treated in an interesting way, and with much knowledge of the details of Greek myths. But we cannot think that those who have followed the modern discussions of the origin and growth of mythology will feel satisfied with the book as a whole. It is very doubtful, in the first place,

whether the science of Comparative Mythology has reached the stage at which the composition of a good elementary manual is possible. In fact, we have only to look at the introductory pages of Mr. Murray's book to see that he finds himself confronted *in limine* with questions to which he can give no generally approved answer. Further, those who have read and enjoyed Mr. Murray's treatment of Greek mythology as a body of narrative, or in its connexion with Greek art, may still doubt whether he has the qualifications needed for a critical examination of its origin and formation. This want is not shown so much in positive mistakes as in the whole method of treatment. For example, in the account of Zeus on pp. 27 ff., Mr. Murray seems uncertain how far his character is to be explained as a personification of the heavens, and concludes that it is "only as a local habitation that the heavens are associated with him in the first instance, and, though it is natural, it is certainly not necessary that he should have power in that region more than in the others." But if, as Mr. Murray admits in his chapter on Comparative Mythology, the name of Zeus had once been the name of the "bright sky" (p. 85), the scientific treatment of Zeus must begin with this fact. Comparative Mythology is not an appendix to the science of mythology; either it is the basis of the whole science, or it is nothing.

It will hardly be admitted that "in the marriage of Zeus and Hera we have a personification of the marriage of the heavens by day with the heavens by night," or that the stars were the numerous eyes by which Hera could look after the doings of Zeus (p. 30). Mr. Murray adds that naturally Hera was made to dislike the moon, which seemed to blind the stars. Further on, he says that the epithet Boöpis, (ox-faced) applied to Hera may have arisen from her relation to the moon, which was usually represented under the form of a horned cow (p. 32). It is at least abrupt to turn the "relation" of dislike into that of mythological identity. Suggestions of this kind may be worth making, but they need a great deal of critical sifting before they can take their place in elementary books.

Mr. Murray's account of Hermes is not better entitled to the confidence of beginners. "In one set of the myths about him, Hermes appears to be god of mountain-mists, and to express by the thefts which he committed the concealment and temporary loss of herds" (p. 53). Mr. Cox has explained Hermes as the wind, and Mr. Max Müller as the dawn. Is any one of these views certain enough to be taught dogmatically? If not, the time has hardly come for an "elementary science manual" on the subject.

To notice a few minor errors: "the *Erinyes* or *Furies*" (p. 18) should be the *Erinyes*, and the same correction has to be made on page 36 and page 66. "Trinakia" (p. 47) should be "Thrinakia." Ares did not fall with the "crash of nine or ten thousand warriors" (p. 53), but his shouting was like that of nine or ten thousand warriors. And what authority is there for "the numerous class of child's stories about ogres and such like, which the Greeks called *mytharia*" (p. 8)? D. B. MONRO.

* Kara-kazán, five miles from Shirwán (*Clouds in the East*, p. 280). Captain Napier says two miles and a half; and mentions a higher permanent source, about fifteen miles north-east. The discrepancy in distance is not very material, as measurements may not in both cases have been made to the actual head of the stream.

* See *Geographical Magazine* for October, 1874. No. VII.

THE LANCASHIRE LIBRARY.

The Lancashire Library, a Bibliographical Account of Books on Topography, Biography, History, Science, and miscellaneous Literature relating to the County Palatine, including an Account of Lancashire Tracts, Pamphlets, and Sermons printed before the Year 1720. With Collations and Bibliographical, Critical, and Biographical Notes on the Books and Authors. By Lieut.-Colonel Henry Fishwick, F.S.A. (London: G. Routledge & Sons; Warrington: Percival Pearse, 1875.)

THIS title very adequately indicates the scope of Colonel Fishwick's book. County bibliographies when fairly done are always useful and often entertaining, and this is a favourable specimen of the class. The author has had a rich field to work in, and both industry and selection have been exercised. The harvest-field is, indeed, so large that some portions of it have had to be deliberately passed over untouched, and in others there is still something left for the gleaners. Works to be included "must be written about or refer to Lancashire places, persons, or things." This rule, considering the wide extent of the local literature of the County Palatine, is justifiable. The wisdom of excluding, "as a rule, tracts and pamphlets printed since 1720" is more open to exception. In several cases it has been neglected with advantage. The task of deciding what is a pamphlet has bothered many a bibliographer. We are not, therefore, surprised to find our author observing of one work that it "is perhaps, strictly speaking, a pamphlet; but will be found useful to the topographer." The principle indicated here is a far better one to follow than the arbitrary division of literature into the sheep of books, and the goats of pamphlets. Variations in type and paper may easily make the same literary matter either book or pamphlet at the option of the printer. If a tract gives an intelligible explanation of a person or thing connected with the county, it would seem to have a fair claim for admittance into this list. A village history is much better when compressed into a pamphlet that everyone can buy and read than when diluted into a volume intended only for the high-polite. Some of the smaller places have an interest of their own. Thus Mr. J. B. Horsfall has given an account of Royton and Chadderton, and their associations for the mental improvement and self-education of the inhabitants. Royton stands in a vale between Oldham Edge and the Tandle Hills, and at the beginning of the century was noted for its Jacobins. These advanced Liberals were at one time well cudgelled by their loyal neighbours; but as hand-loom weaving declined they found many sympathisers. The Jacobins started a circulating library in 1794. Though it did not contain a thousand volumes, the works were for the most part well calculated to promote thought. They also organised a society for the study of botany and natural history, of which John Mellor, an artisan naturalist, was the president. This society organised a small scientific library. Mr. Horsfall, writing in 1854, names several other circulating libraries, and several

"mutual schools," in which young men assembled to teach each other the elements of knowledge, and by their associated twopences to obtain external help. Altogether, Royton had eighteen newsrooms, libraries, and self-improvement societies, excluding of course the ordinary day, night, and Sunday schools. The "teetotalers," in the year of the plug-drawing, established an educational institute. A Sunday-school was afterwards attached to it, in which the three R.'s were taught. In the churchyard of Royton rest several men who, in spite of the bitterest poverty, reached the height where science smiles upon her children. Butterworth, Compton, Grime, and Kay were all of the artisan class, and honourably known for their contributions to the mathematical periodicals of sixty years ago. These particulars we take from a small pamphlet excluded from Colonel Fishwick's list.

There is much that is interesting in the *Lancashire Library*. We catch many glimpses of the good old times. Thus we have a reference to Father Arrowsmith, hanged at Lancaster in 1628 for being a priest, whose hand, preserved as a relic, has the reputation of having performed many wonderful cures. Matching this is a notice of George Marsh, the Protestant martyr, whose supposed footprint was long a thing of marvel to the visitors at Smithills Hall. Of another complexion is the account of the "Festival of Win," a public dinner given on his return home to the gallant Captain Phipps Hornby, under the shade of an immense oak at Winwick, in 1811. The dark shadows of superstition are visible in the notices of the Lancashire witches, nineteen of whom were executed for their supposed crime in 1613. Other forms may be noted in the Surey demoniac, in the prodigious monsters asserted to have been born at Kirkham and Adlington, and in the strange apparitions visible at Bolton in 1650. The history of religious enthusiasm has few finer episodes than the early career of the Quakers. The county palatine is closely associated with this. Fox married a Lancashire widow, Margaret Fell, of Swarthmoor Hall, and found a ready response to his rugged appeals among the yeomanry. The persecution against them was exceedingly fierce. Oliver Atherton, of Bickersteth, was imprisoned for non-payment of tithes, at the instance of Charlotte de la Tremouille, the gallant defender of Lathom House, nor would she grant him liberty, although the danger to his life was represented to her in a petition drawn up by the prisoners of Lancaster Castle. His death is a dark stain upon her character. Thomas Rudd was imprisoned and whipped through the streets of Liverpool. Francis Patchet died in the Fleet Prison for non-payment of tithes. Barrow, another Lancashire Friend, had some strange adventures in Florida. One of the most interesting of the early Quakers was Richard Hubberthorne, of Yeland, who had served in the army of the Parliament. He made his way upon one occasion into the presence of Charles II., with whom he had a long talk about the doctrines and persecutions of the Friends. The king was good-natured enough to promise him that they should not suffer for their religion. The value of a Stuart promise is abundantly

shown by the fact that Hubberthorne died of the jail distemper in the prison of Newgate.

Colonel Fishwick may fairly be congratulated on the success he has achieved. We say this notwithstanding errors and omissions to which it would be easy to point. In a work of this description a pretty wide margin of allowance must be made for such mishaps. When a second edition is called for a number of typographical errata will no doubt silently vanish. By dint of patient rummaging of the stores of public libraries and private collections, a book has been produced which will certainly be a welcome aid to all interested in the county of the Red Rose. WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

BAYONNE UNDER ENGLISH RULE.

Etudes Historiques sur la Ville de Bayonne.

Par J. Balasque, avec la collaboration de E. Dulaurens, archiviste de la ville. (Bayonne: 1862-1875.)

Récits et Légendes relatifs à l'Histoire de Bayonne. Par Henry Poydenot. Fasc. 1, 2, 3. (1875-6.)

THESE two books give us a specimen of the difference between the workmanship of an artist, a workman, and an amateur. That of the two former is highly valuable, while that of the last is only occasionally interesting. The amateur work is the three fascicules of M. Henry Poydenot, entitled respectively, "Fondation de la Ville de Bayonne et Origine de son Nom;" "Notes sur la Cathédrale, les Convents, et quelques autres Monuments Anciens;" "Principaux Evénements survenus à Bayonne pendant l'Occupation Anglaise, 1152-1451." These show considerable reading and some acquaintance with original and MS. sources, but there is an utter want of critical discrimination; all authorities seem to be treated as of equal value. Of the two *collaborateurs* in the larger work M. Balasque is the literary artist, while M. Dulaurens is the diligent and critical collector of materials. The want of the artist's hand to mould these materials into perfect form is evident in the latter half of vol. iii., compiled since the death of M. Balasque; it hardly rises above materials "pour servir." The period included is the same in both of the above works—from the origin of the city to its reunion with France.

It is always instructive to look at our own history through the eyes of a foreigner; and this will give a charm to these works in the eyes of all Englishmen. MM. Balasque and Dulaurens, too, are singularly unprejudiced. The days of Bayonne's greatness and independence are bound up with the English domination; by its reunion with France it sank to the position of a mere French frontier fortress like a hundred others, with no peculiar history of its own. Before this time the mayors of Bayonne used to receive letters from their English sovereigns couched in terms of something like equality, "en beau style redondant avec force louanges." Bayonne then compelled her neighbours to bring their produce to her market and to sell it there almost on her own terms; but while enforcing "protective" duties on all strangers, she claimed for herself free entry

to all English markets for her own produce. Then she made separate treaties with Navarre and Castile, with Biscay and Guipuzcoa, with the Asturias and Galicia, almost like an independent State; and no fortress could be erected in the Labourd without her consent. It was when Bayonne was most free that she served England with greatest loyalty. Only in the last twenty years of the domination do we find English names supplanting Gascon ones as mayors of Bayonne. It was the loss of the spirit of municipal freedom, quite as much as the advance of French arms and the influence of French gold, that sapped the loyalty of its inhabitants to England.

Many well-known characters in English history appear in these pages. The phrase "Angevin Sovereigns" has become established of late as the fittest term to describe the early Plantagenets; but here Richard I. is regarded almost solely as a Gascon prince, to which appellation he is entitled on his mother's side. And certainly no better type of the Gascon can be found than Richard Cœur de Lion, with all the defects and merits of the race. Even the Béarnais Henry IV., with more political sagacity but with less literary culture, is not so genuine a specimen. As in England, so in Guienne Simon de Montfort towers above all his contemporaries; but it is more strange to read a defence of Gaveston, the unhappy favourite of Edward II. Whatever his conduct as a courtier may have been, he certainly understood the true interests of England in Guienne, and most skilfully advanced them. We have little space in which to speak of the Black Prince, but M. Dulaurens well remarks that it was the previous campaigns of the Earl of Derby which alone made Poitiers possible. He also notices, with Professor Stubbs, that the chivalry of the Black Prince was a mere recrudescence and parody of a spirit that was fast expiring. It was depending on this false chivalry, instead of fostering municipal and commercial freedom, that led to the rapid and easy fall of the English power in the south. Yet even at the last the sole entry of the capture of the town in the archives of Bayonne speaks volumes:—"Lan mil iiij^e Lj. a vj. dies d'agost, metton seti a Baione lo conte de Foix, moss. de Dunoys et moss. de Labrit, et prengon lad. cuitat lo XV^{me} jorn deud. mes." Popular tradition tells of the miracle of a white cross appearing in the sky to replace the red cross of England on the morning of the surrender; but the city scribe writes only as above.

Besides what relates to England the first of the above works contains an excellent picture—all the more valuable because not a highly-wrought or sensational one—of life in a highly privileged town in the Middle Ages. We find here long beforehand the curious mixture of the patriot, merchant, and adventurer, which has been remarked among the great seamen of Elizabeth's reign. The Bayonnais were ready to carry wine and cider, or to furnish war-ships to England, or to capture whales in the Bay of Biscay; but they gave the name of their own seaport, Cap-Breton, to an island off Nova-Scotia, and they never lost an opportunity of capturing and pillaging a foreign, and especi-

ally a Spanish, vessel whenever it promised to be an easy prey. The normal state of Bayonne for some centuries was to be fighting with the Basques and the Comtes de Gramont on land, and on sea "un peu contre tout le monde" (vol. iii., 168). After all that has been written on the subject, the sumptuary laws and the restrictions on trade seem well-nigh incredible: e.g., in the fourteenth century it is forbidden to the bride on her marriage to give her husband more than two shirts, and the bridegroom was not allowed to give stockings to his friends "sous peine de 20 livres de Morlâas." All fish caught from Cap-Breton to Biarritz could be sold only at Bayonne, and there every hindrance was put in the way of the vendors. The produce of the farm and vineyard could likewise be sold only at stated seasons of the year, at certain hours of the day, and at a fixed tariff. The clergy alone enjoyed anything like freedom of sale or purchase; and that only for the produce of the cathedral lands and for the consumption of the chapter. Another almost equal obstacle to commerce was the complexity of the monetary system and of weights and measures. We might almost defy an H.M.'s school inspector to examine his family bills when the confusion was such that it was considered a simplification to decree (1377) that there should be only eight different measures of the piece of cloth, varying fractionally from $24\frac{1}{2}$ verges to $10\frac{1}{4}$; only eight different kinds of measures of wine and cider; when the pound weight was to consist of $14\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, and the currency of pieces of eight different coinages bearing all the same denominations of "denier," "sol," and "livre." The cost of living was subject to great variations, but in the fourteenth century wine and wheat seem to have been double their present price. Rent of land seems to have been cheaper. A lease is mentioned (vol. iii., 481) for one-fifth of the produce, instead of for one-half as under the present *metayer*-system. This was probably owing to the insecurity of the labourer, who was obliged to go to work with arms in his hands. What law-suits were then we can imagine from the preamble of an ordinance (1403) against appeals—"Seeing that suits before the judge of appeal in Gascony are immortal (immortals)." Through the effects of mortgages, debt, pestilence, and violence, property had got into such confusion in 1334 that an ordinance very like the Irish Encumbered Estates Act was passed by Vidau de Castet with good effect. It guaranteed a title to all property bought or sold under its conditions.

One word as to the ecclesiastical status of the diocese. Though Bayonne was almost a Gascon outpost in a Basque country, and its inhabitants were at perpetual feud with their Basque neighbours, yet the diocese extended far into Navarre and Guipuzcoa, and the authority of the bishop was acknowledged there. One of the most curious documents of vol. iii. is the will of Godin, Cardinal of Bayonne, who was to Philip le Bel what Wolsey was to Henry VIII. A Ritualist might well study the ornaments rubric therein. A very dark picture of the morals of the clergy is sketched out in an ordinance of 1427—"De macipes de caperans

et autres reneguados et juguedos." A still more outspoken law exists in Basque; and for the state of the Spanish clergy the student must follow up the references of vol. iii., 204.

These are only some of the points of interest touched upon in the honest and impartial volumes of MM. Balasque and Dulaurens. The second fascicule of M. Poydenot may be useful as a guide to the cathedral, but for all else we refer the student to the former work, which is fully as superior in value as it is larger in bulk.

WENTWORTH WEBSTER.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

The Balearic Islands. By Charles Toll Bidwell, F.R.G.S. (Sampson Low and Co.) This is a good book, but it is rather difficult to see for what class of readers it is intended. It is decidedly heavier, but apparently more trustworthy, than most of the books written for the sake of intending tourists, and yet it is too slight to be of real service to the student either of history, of political economy, or of natural science. Compiled by an official man, and mainly from official sources, with its many tabular appendices, it has in parts the air of a Government Report, or of a Blue-Book in embryo. Still it is not a bad book. If not brilliant, there is an air of common sense and candour about it which begets confidence—a confidence which is founded chiefly on the fact that there seems to be no desire to write up the subject of it, the Balearic Isles, unfairly, either on the score of cheapness, comfort, climate, or scenery. Sentences like these (on p. 15):—"For these reasons, it is, we think, somewhat doubtful whether the climate would not be too variable for those who seek an eligible winter residence on grounds of health;" "Certainly native consumptive patients go off very suddenly and quickly"—are clearly not written for the purpose of seducing invalids; and for this honest warning thanks are certainly due to the author. The singular difficulty of procuring suitable houses or apartments, and the still greater difficulty of procuring decent servants, joined to a scale of prices for necessities much higher than that of many more accessible places on the Continent, will avert that class of visitors who live abroad from motives of economy. The islands may be a paradise for servants, but they decidedly cannot be so for mistresses. It will sound strange to students of political economy to hear the widespread *metayer*-system described as "a system of partnership," and spoken of as if it were something peculiar to the Balearic Isles. But it speaks well for both landlord and tenant where such a system works satisfactorily. Unless conducted with fairness and consideration on both sides it is open to gross abuses. If the landlord strictly exacts it, half the produce, except under exceptional cases, is too high a rent for the tenant to pay; while, if the tenant is a rogue, the landlord is easily mulcted of his fair share of the produce. Excepting in a population like that of the Balearic Isles, where doors are left unlocked night and day, and where tempting objects are left in the fields unwatched without risk of being stolen, the landlord's portion becomes really far less than under a nominally lower rent. This we have found to be the case in all countries where we have watched the operation of the system. The chapters of most general interest will be found to be those on courtship and marriage, on servants, and on society. The curious Spanish law, which prevails also in Portugal, whereby a suitor of equal rank can legally compel the assent of the parents of his intended bride (if of full age) to a marriage which they object to seems to be more frequently put into operation in Majorca than elsewhere. Under its provisions the fiancée can be removed from the custody of her

parents, and handed over to that of some fit duenna approved by the suitor, who is responsible to him for the safeguard of her charge during the three months of probation previous to the marriage. Our author justly speaks with reprobation of its proceedings, and yet we have known one or two happy marriages in Portugal brought about under its provisions. The one class for which there seems to be a real attraction to the Balearic Isles is that of painters and sketchers, amateur or professional. Aesthetic study stands out in marked contrast to more useful every-day education. While eighty-five per cent. of the population can neither read nor write, the Art School of Palma is inferior to only one school of Italy (Milan) in the number of its students. A love and regard for art, especially painting, seems almost universal. It must be very delightful for one with the necessary qualifications to wander with tent and brushes through the picturesque scenery of these islands, amid a population from whom neither insult nor robbery is to be feared, and in a climate which makes tent-life sufficiently enjoyable through the greater part of the year. It is to artists and to those who think that the observation of quaint mediæval customs, and of habits of thought which have become obsolete elsewhere, more than compensates for inconvenience and discomfort that these islands will prove attractive. According to our author, they have little to offer to the capitalist, nothing to tempt the economical; they hold out little promise of health to the invalid, and must be a purgatory to housekeepers of every grade. To have written thus honestly about a place of residence which the author yet apparently likes is an act as praiseworthy as it is rare.

Through France and Belgium in the "Ytene." By W. J. C. Moens. (Hurst and Blackett.) When the first page of a book introduces the author as hesitating what to do with himself for some months, the critic, taught by experience, is apt to anticipate a Puck-like girdling of the globe, followed by an alliterative title, or mayhap some fantastic enterprise such as those which have caused distant rivers and recondite fountains to echo the name of Rob Roy. Possessed, however, of a handy steamer of "eleven tons net register," and influenced, perhaps, by the lotus-like spells of the pretty creek of Fowey (little changed since, in the consulship of Plancus, the writer had to put shoulder to wheel in a bright moonlight and help the Royal mail into the ferry-boat), Mr. Moens calls upon us for no further exertion than is needful to proceed *via* Havre to Paris, and thence by Ghent to Calais. The route, indeed, is somewhat unusual, and if it were due to the counsels of a mysterious Egeria designated A. that he elected to encounter the locks, tunnels, and weighbridges of French and Flemish canals, we can but respectfully wonder at the lady's choice. We can, however, honestly welcome much of unusual information which our author has gathered in his frequently subterranean trip. The scale on which canal navigation is conducted will probably startle an English mind, little accustomed to locks one hundred feet long and sixteen wide, and we may at once say that throughout the work we have found the curiosities of the canals as interesting as the *Ytene* seems to have been to the enterprising maiden of the frontier who braved a fierce wind to satisfy her curiosity. Indeed, we must confess that the personal experiences of the author are far more to our taste than the *résumé* of Murray and abbreviations of history which occupy too large a portion of the volume. It was surely needless, after "trusting to be excused from giving a detailed description" of the private apartments of Compiègne, to describe them in detail; nor can the reader be expected to take much interest in the circumstances which obtained for the party the pleasure of a sermon from "a Canon of Lincoln." To Jacqueline of Holland, old friend though she be, we cannot willingly accord eight pages of print, and the imperial joke about Charles V.'s glove ought really to be put on the same shelf

with "Non Angli sed Angeli." There are one or two good bits of nationality here and there, such as the courteous but obstinate Dutchman's refusal to recognise what Mr. Moens' printer will persist in calling "a laissez passez," and the Englishman whose mistake between "bateau" and "bâton" led him to a bout at fisticuffs, and had nearly introduced him to a word which (he observed) was, luckily for him, the same in both languages—viz., a prison.

Three Months in the Mediterranean. (Stanford.) "Three Months in the Mediterranean" is not a pretentious title; nor does this small volume claim to record anything more than the impressions—first impressions they may be unhesitatingly pronounced—received in time and place above specified. That these impressions be honestly and, as in the present instance, pleasantly laid before the reader, is all that can be fairly demanded, and we are well content to revisit in Mr. Coote's company the oft-furrowed sea whose shores were empires, which her waters did not waste—being tideless—whatever Byron's printers may have said to the contrary. Our author, leaving Liverpool, might have spared us the (possibly inevitable) sea-sickness, which, having been vividly recorded by Dickens and solemnly anathematised by Thackeray, has fairly earned exemption from other sufferers. After a commendably brief glimpse of particoloured Gibraltar, we commence sightseeing with Genoa; and here *in limine* we must in all kindness protest against the funny nomenclature of sundry well-known spots, which must surely have been notated phonetically from some polyglot *valet de place*. The Cornice road need not be spelt Cornichi; and why, oh! why should we be told of "the chapel of Jean Baptiste"? The Precursor is surely well known enough to English readers of the New Testament, and need not be introduced under a French garb. Admiration for the noble breakwater at Leghorn must not warrant the ascribing its erection to either of the Napoleons, as the works were begun under Austrian sway, and all but completed when the last Grand Duke of Tuscany was "pitched, no parcel that needs invoicing, to the other side of the Mount St. Gothard." The drunken effect of mounting the Leaning Tower of Pisa is well described, but there is something funny in our author's wonderment at finding church bells hung in a belfry, and in his comparing the roof of the many-angled Baptistery to half an egg! The cathedral is not in black-and-white marble, though St. Lorenzo at Genoa is so. The next page transfers us to Naples, where we quote with pleasure a sentence:—"It was with a feeling almost akin to fear that I walked from the inn on the Naples road to the ruins" of Pompeii. Mr. Coote's enjoyment of the city's treasures is such as befits one who approached the spot with such reverence, and we must needs envy the simple faith with which he accepts as authentic the names of house-proprietors given by early excavators, who seem to have possessed a Pompeian Post-Office Directory for A.D. 79. The Battle Mosaic is perhaps the most interesting mosaic yet unearthed, but must not be spoken of as the greatest, while the Vatican and Lateran Museums, Palestina and Athens are yet to the fore. But the strangest fiction—one that we feel almost sorry to destroy—is the assertion that on a necklace found in the cellars of the suburban villa near the gate of Herculaneum was inscribed the name of its owner—viz., Julie di Diomede. This warrant of identity beats the bricks in Jack Cade's chimney which testify to his royal descent (see *Henry VI.*), and is rivalled only by a stone on the hill near Glastonbury where Joseph of Arimathea planted the Glastonbury thorn, which is inscribed "J. A., A.D. 33." Before quitting the shores of Italy in company with Mr. Coote, we must demur to his assertion that "the ancients" considered the colossal Farnese Hercules "the finest piece of sculpture ever wrought." Even if these be the "invicti membra Glyconis" of Horace—a doubtful point—the praise bestowed by Pliny on the Laocoon is far more elaborate.

Our author should have remembered the old remark that it was unnecessary to praise Hercules, as no one had ever thought of blaming him. The scene now shifts to the East, where the Alexandrian donkey boys, the pyramids, the Sphinx (to whose eternal glory *Punch* has lately added an amaranthine wreath), and the glorious gardens of the industrious but impecunious Khedive pass rapidly before us. But the scenes are accurate rather than life-like. We see the Esbekeeyeh of Cairo, the beautiful harbour of Smyrna, but miss the poetic eye which saw on these spots Bedreddin Hassan asleep in his drawers at the city gate, and Ali Baba going out at early dawn with his donkey to cut wood. Even the Golden Horn is scarcely able to receive a new tint. There was no want of energy, however, in our rapid circumnavigator, and to this quality we owe some interesting glimpses of Ephesus, Tunis with the gigantic aqueduct near Roman Carthage, and, best of all perhaps, a gallop through the island of Elba, where the author's good humour under the torture of an Italian mule demands from ourselves equal leniency for the very funny spelling of the Elban seaports. May Mr. Coote's next vacation afford him and his readers equal enjoyment!

Arabistan, or the Land of the Arabian Nights. By Wm. Percy Fogg. (Sampson Low and Co.) This is an amusing book of Eastern travel, a great part of it being occupied with the by no means inaccessible, but still little visited, city of Bagdad and its neighbourhood. It is written in a light and humorous style, without degenerating into the buffoonery which has lately been too much in vogue among American tourists when they publish the journals which every traveller seems irresistibly impelled to keep. The author has evidently no great literary experience; he has no interesting discoveries to record; he met with no striking adventures, and (although he tells us that he contemplated visiting Central Africa, Mecca, and Babylon) he traversed no difficult or unknown region; and yet we are bound to confess that his volume is both instructive and entertaining. He begins, of course, with a sketch of the route from Europe to Egypt, and an account of Egypt itself; a trip from Jaffa to Jerusalem and back naturally occupies two or three chapters; the Suez Canal must be described, however familiar the daily papers have made most people with that triumph of engineering skill; the voyage up the Red Sea, that *bête noire* of Anglo-Indians, cannot be passed over without comment; but at length the reader is allowed to accompany him to Bagdad. This city, with its environs, is well described, and the lovers of the *Arabian Nights* will peruse with pleasure and profit the clear and straightforward account of the present aspect of the place, and the condition of its inhabitants. Unfortunately Mr. Fogg, like many of his travelling countrymen, is not a linguist, but he cannot forego the temptation to quote scraps of foreign languages, which, as may be expected, suffer dreadfully in the process. It is somewhat startling to be told that the Cajar dynasty of the Persian Shah is Kurdish in origin, and that the Persian native name for their country is *Iranistan*. That *Yankeedonia* (for *Yenidunya*), "New World," is an Arabic word, instead of a Turkish-Arabic compound, is also a new philological light. Chapter xx. contains an account of Bedouin manners, obviously compiled from the pages of Burckhardt and the notes to Lane's *Arabian Nights*. Although the individual statements in it are correct, the description as a whole would not apply to any single existing Arab tribe. Mr. Fogg, however, confessedly writes for the mass of the American public, who, to use his own words, "have no definite ideas as to what Mahomet taught and the religious observances of his followers;" and, if we make allowances for these inaccuracies, we shall find that the book presents a very graphic picture of the East as it appears to an outsider, and this is all that a traveller of the class aims at conveying. Mr. Fogg found Bagdad the most typical Oriental city

in the world, and his descriptions of the bazaars, mosques, people, and street scenes are very pleasant reading. The illustrations, which are plentifully scattered throughout the book, are very unequal in merit; there are a few really good full-page engravings of some of the principal sites visited by the author, and there are a number of indifferent woodcuts representing various humorous incidents in his voyage. Added to these are a good many illustrations, copied without acknowledgment and not too exactly, from the pages of Layard, Lane's *Arabian Nights*, and other English works. The book is not one that adds much to our knowledge, or to which a scholar would refer for information; but it would serve well to while away a spare half-hour, and it certainly inculcates one moral—namely, that, if one has sufficient time, money, and energy, one may travel quite as easily and comfortably in the "Land of the Arabian Nights" as in most tourist-frequented parts of the continent of Europe.

To Jamaica and Back. By Sir Sibbald David Scott, Bart. (Chapman and Hall.) Sir Sibbald David Scott went to Jamaica with a return ticket in 1874, and remained in the island less than three weeks. It is a pity that he has been persuaded to figure among authors. The journal which he kept during his absence from England, and which forms the basis of the present work, is of that lively kind which makes pleasant reading for the writer's family and may fairly be handed about among his friends, but ought to go no further. One sea voyage is very like another: the weather first, the food next, and then a description of the passengers, and all is told. Of Jamaica itself there is not much that is new to be learned, and Sir Sibbald has not contributed to our knowledge. He has added to his journal three chapters containing a *précis* of the history of Jamaica taken from Gardner's *History*, and Bridges' *Annals of Jamaica*. It is as well here to correct what is doubtless a typographical slip; Jamaica is stated to contain 400,000 acres, which must be a misprint for 4,000,000.

Chinese Sketches. By Herbert A. Giles. (Trübner.) The sketches in this volume owe their existence chiefly, Mr. Giles tells us, "to frequent peregrinations in Chinese cities, with pencil and notebook in hand." They do not pretend to be exhaustive treatises on the subjects they refer to, but simply give such general notices on everyday topics as may be found in the columns of newspapers or in the pages of magazines. Some have already seen the light in a Shanghai periodical, and these, having been submitted to the process of revision, reappear now in company with fresh matter in their present form. Many of these essays are decidedly interesting—such, for instance, as those on etiquette, on the state of the medical art in China, on loan societies, and others—but the extreme brevity of most of them has given in some instances an appearance of crudeness to Mr. Giles' opinions which would possibly not have been the case were the subjects treated at greater length. For example, his remarks, as they stand, on the literature convey a very undue depreciation of its value. A large portion of it is doubtless contemptible—witness such street-literature and works of medicine as are referred to by Mr. Giles—but, on the other hand, there is, to speak of nothing else, a vast amount of ethnological and geographical information which is as yet only partially revealed to the world in general, and which can never be fully known until the contents of the works of Chinese authors on those subjects shall have become public property. Nor can we suppose that Mr. Giles wishes it to be understood as the result of any investigation on his part that, as he would appear to imply, "only thieves and bad characters who have nothing to lose avail themselves of Christian baptism, as a means of securing 'long nights of indolence and ease' in the household of some enthusiastic missionary at from four to ten dollars a month." Unfortunately the book has been written with an object, and in

common with all such books it inherits the vice of one-sidedness. In its pages Mr. Giles has undertaken to reverse most of the opinions which have been previously formed on the moral and physical condition of the Chinese; and this he attempts to do, not by well-digested arguments based on the stern logic of facts, but by unsupported assertions which amount only to the expression of his individual opinion. China is a vast empire, and it is dangerous, even with an unbiassed pen, to generalise on the condition of her 400,000,000 of inhabitants from an acquaintance with the few thousands who are to be met with at the Treaty Ports.

Six Months in America (Zes Maanden in Amerika). By Dr. M. Cohen Stuart. (Haarlem.) An intelligent and apparently trustworthy account of the United States by a Dutch clergyman who went over to New York in 1873 as a delegate to the Evangelical Alliance—that "grand cosmopolitan conclave of Christian captains," as one of the American papers somewhat flowingly described it. His friends—and he found many—were mostly, as we should say, clerical; but American religion and religious organisations are not the least interesting subjects of study. Nowhere, he says, is there so little intolerance as in America, and he preaches a sermon to his Dutch countrymen from that text. Indeed, his chief object is to be, in a humble measure, the Laboulaye of Holland—that is, to indicate the improvements which might be introduced at home from the Republic of the West. Perhaps he is somewhat partial in his estimate of the latter. That sectarian differences in Holland are specially characterised by animosity is exactly what does not strike a visitor from England. But Dr. Cohen Stuart (he is not a doctor of Leyden, but of New Brunswick) has eyes for other than religious peculiarities. The practical spirit of the Americans finds in him an almost too enthusiastic admirer. Not the least valuable part of the book is the account of the American colleges, though we could have wished for further details as to the scientific quality of the education supplied. We gather that the author has in reserve a fuller account, which he proposes to publish separately. He notices with gratification the prosperity of the Dutch element in the States, and mentions, as a matter of antiquarian interest, that several words (*e.g.* boss) have survived from the old Dutch period, and become part and parcel of the New York dialect, just as the "knickerbocker" families have of the New York population. It was Dr. Cohen Stuart's work to find out the Dutch colonies and preach to them in their mother-tongue, and as his English hosts had an equal avidity for sermons, his lungs must have been pretty well exercised during his six months' visit. The work is a good specimen of the truly elegant Dutch typography.

Country Life in Syria: Passages of Letters written from Anti-Lebanon. By Harriet Rattray. (Seeley.) Syria has an evident attraction for the lady visitor or settler from the West, and its atmosphere is clearly favourable to the development of womanly thought. Nor has its romance been destroyed by the mail-coach running between Beirut and Damascus, with its prepared road, duly organised stations and changes of horses, established in these practical and utilitarian days by a matter-of-fact French company. In support of this view may be cited a new collection of papers under the title above shown, apparently fragments of by-gone correspondence, and illustrated by very fair and truthful sketches. These letters, commencing in December, 1863, and ending in October, 1875, describe with much intelligent force the life of the authoress and her husband, who farm the village lands of Khoraibeh in the Anti-Lebanon, but whose residence is rather in the plains of Coelo-Syria. Readers who—independently of Lamartine, the author of *Esthen*, and other modern authorities—are familiar with the charming volumes published fifteen years ago

under the title of *Egyptian Sepulchres and Syrian Shrines*, will not need new pictures of the mountains and valleys of the Lebanon, of Druse or Maronite, or of sacred cedars and time-honoured ruins, to which the way is open from Beirut and neighbouring ports. Much the same ground has, moreover, been quite recently trodden and described by a lady whose *Inner Life in Syria* is a book of no common merit. But they will readily welcome sketches of men, women, and animals, and of an out-door life which is the very antithesis of the *salon* and resorts of high-class civilisation. If objection exist to the mention, sometimes in tolerable detail, of snakes and scorpions, flies and locusts, fleas and "unmentionables" (the author's word), hornets, spiders, and other living annoyances; or if exception be taken to the display of a too shady side of Syrian character; there is, on the other hand, much genuine representation and instructive small-talk to recommend the unpretending volume under notice. We conclude with an extract from its pages which may be useful to mistaken phil-anthropists. Domestic or hereditary slavery is not to be confounded with that wretched condition of existence peculiar to the living cargoes of slave-ships; but we fear the distinction is not always rightly apprehended. Letter V. is discussing the habits of the Syrian people in their household relations:—

"The mother of the family is treated in the most outrageous manner. She is sworn at by her daughters, and cursed, beaten, and overworked by her husband and her sons; and when too feeble to perform her ordinary tasks, she is made to feel continually that she is a burden to the whole family. In cases where people are too wealthy to begrudge the food of the mother or grandmother, the old folks suffer less; but they meet with abusive, disrespectful treatment from every one. . . . Black slaves are to be met with in most of the large houses. They are invariably kindly treated—spoilt, we should consider in England. You would be astonished to see the servants of a rich man following him into any house at which he is paying a visit, seating themselves in the sitting-room, joining in the conversation, actually interrupting their betters in the midst of a sentence, coolly examining any knickknacks that lie about, and, if the master stays rather long, saying, in a free and easy manner, 'Come, it is quite time for us to go; are you going to remain till midnight?'"

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Clarendon Press is about to publish a new edition of the late Mr. Finlay's *History of Greece under Foreign Domination*, corrected and improved by the author, and in parts re-written. The principal additions are: in Vol. I., "Greece under the Romans," an essay on the depreciation of coinage by the Roman Emperors; in Vol. IV., "Mediaeval Greece and Trebizond," which has been so altered as to be almost a new work, an essay on the commercial relations of the Venetians with the Byzantine Empire, and a full account of the Duchy of the Archipelago or Naxos; in Vol. V., "Greece under Ottoman and Venetian Domination," an account of the Genoese Trading Company in Chios. The supplementary chapter to the "History of the Greek Revolution" (Vol. VII.) contains the history from the end of 1843, when the published work concludes, to 1864, after the accession of the present sovereign. This work, which is to be edited by the Rev. H. F. Tozer, will be published for the University of Oxford by Messrs. Macmillan and Co.

A NEW and cheaper edition of Mr. Hilton's *Lectures on the Therapeutic Influence of Rest and the Diagnostic Value of Pain*, which have for some time been out of print, is in the press, and will be published shortly. It will be edited by W. H. A. Jacobson, F.R.C.S., assistant-surgeon to Guy's Hospital, and will contain additional woodcuts.

MESSRS. BEMROSE AND SONS are extending the

scheme of their Railway Panoramic Guides to the Scotch lines. They have in preparation descriptive Guides to the Glasgow and South Western and North British railways.

FROM the Thirty-Seventh Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, just issued, we learn that Mr. Rawdon Brown has continued the sixth volume of his *Calendar of State Papers Preserved in the Venetian Archives* down to the year 1556, and has transmitted ten more volumes of transcripts of documents relating to British affairs. There are now eighty-four volumes in all of these materials for our history deposited in the Record Office for the use of students and historians. M. Armand Baschet has continued his researches for documents relating to British history, and has forwarded some valuable transcripts from the National Library of France and the office of the "Archives des Affaires Etrangères," together with a list of French Ambassadors in England from 1509 to 1714, which is printed in the Appendix to this Report. The Rev. Joseph Stevenson has also continued his researches in the Vatican Archives and other libraries at Rome for like materials, and has transmitted many copies of important documents illustrating our affairs. Some obstacles mentioned in a previous Report of the Deputy-Keeper having been removed, Mr. Stevenson states that every facility is now afforded him at the Vatican. Six volumes of the works in the series of *Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages* have been issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls during the past year, and three more are nearly ready. Upwards of 30,000 copies of the volumes in this series have been sold since its commencement.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON AND HODGE sold last week a copy of the first edition (Kilmarnock, 1786) of *Burns's Poems*, with an Elegy on the death of Sir J. H. Blair in the autograph of the poet prefixed, for 38*l.* 10*s.*; and Rogers's own copy, with autograph notes, of his *Italy and Poems*, for 6*l.* Copies of the first edition, on large paper, of Bewick's works realised the following prices: *History of Quadrupeds*, 15*l.*; *History of British Birds*, 11*l.* 15*s.*; *Fables*, 11*l.* 5*s.* A "Vinegar" edition of the Bible fetched 4*l.* 13*s.*, and a subscriber's copy of Halliwell's Shakespeare, 51*l.* Among some manuscripts sold were a *Biblia Hebraica*, on vellum, written in Spain in the fourteenth century, 28*l.* 10*s.*; and *Johannis Damasceni de Orthodoxa Fide Liber*, 14th century, in the original oak boards, 14*l.* *Heures a l'usage de Rome*, a work printed on vellum at Paris in 1518, with autograph of Jeanne Hubigean, sold for 15*l.* 15*s.* Among other rare and curious works offered were *The Holy Bull and Crusado of Rome*, black letter, 1588, with pretended signature and notes of Shakespeare, 1*l.* 10*s.*; Bate's *Mysteries of Nature and Art*, 1635, 2*l.* 17*s.*; and Benzoni's *Historia del Mondo Novo*, Venice 1565, 3*l.* 4*s.* A beautifully-illuminated manuscript, *Champ de Drap d'Or*, an account of the interview between Henry VIII. and Francis on the Field of the Cloth of Gold, sold for 90*l.* Some scarce and valuable topographical works were also disposed of by the same firm. These included Clutterbuck's *Hertfordshire*, 3 vols. in 6, on large paper, with additions, 139*l.*; Nichols' *County of Leicester*, 4 vols. in 8, on large paper, 90*l.*; Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, 11*l.*; Drake's *Eboracum*, 9*l.* 10*s.*; Chauncy's *Hertfordshire*, 7*l.* 15*s.*; Baker's *County of Northampton*, 19*l.*; and Lipscomb's *County of Buckingham*, 8*l.*

SATURDAY, July 29, being the eightieth birthday of the poet Christian Winther, was held as a festival by the Danish students. An address of congratulation from the city of Copenhagen was telegraphed to his residence in Paris. Winther is the greatest lyricist Denmark has produced.

In John Lane's *Tom Tel-Trot's Message and his Pen's Complaint*, 1600, which is one of the

Shakspeare's-England tracts that Mr. Furnivall is re-editing for the New Shakspeare Society, occurs a stanza which may be fairly taken as an allusion to Shakspeare's *Venus and Adonis* and *Lucrece*. As it did not find its way into the last collection of such allusions, we give it here, though it may have been noticed elsewhere before:—

STANZA 109.

"When chaste *Adonis* came to mans estate,
Venus straight courted him with many a wile;
Lucrece once scene, straight *Targuine* laid a bait,
 With foule incest her bodie to defile:
 Thus men by women, women wrongde by men,
 Give matter still unto my plaintife pen."

It occurs in the author's treatment of the seventh Deadly Sin, Lechery, in Shakspeare's time.

THE *Schlesische Presse* gives an account of some recent researches made by the Bolognese historian Carlo Malagola with reference to the nationality of Copernicus. He has come upon the almost complete series of the "Acts" of the *Natio Germanica* of the University of Bologna. It seems that the name of "Nicolas Kopernikus" was first inscribed in the Bologna registers in the autumn of 1496, as a student of the canon law, belonging to the "German Nation" in the University, to which also his uncle Watzelröde had belonged, who was a student at the same University from 1470 to 1473. In 1498 his brother Andreas came to Bologna, also for the purpose of studying the *jus canonicum*. Two years later, both brothers went to Rome, leaving Bologna without taking any degree. Nicolas Copernicus did not become Doctor until 1507, after his second return from Italy. The stay of Copernicus in Padua, and the inscription of his name in the *Album Polonorum*, says Malagola, is a mere tale, of which not a word is true. He has discovered the names of the teachers of the astronomer. He studied mathematics under Scipione del Ferro, the Greek language under Urico Cadro, and Astronomy under Domenico Maria Novara.

THE Augsburg *Allgemeine Zeitung* gives an account of Alex. Fredo, "the Polish Molière," who died at Lemberg on July 16. He was the founder of the Polish comedy. He differed from his Polish contemporaries, says the writer, by overleaping the narrow bounds which they set themselves and writing for a wider circle; his works have been translated into other languages, and rendered in many non-Polish theatres. The biographer thinks that his numerous comedies will continue to live. He was born in Galicia in 1793, entered the Polish military service in 1809, laid aside soldiery and took up authorship in 1814. For the last forty years of his life he wrote nothing.

THE second instalment of Mr. Spedding's examination of Lord Macaulay's essay on Bacon in the *Contemporary* deals exhaustively with the case of Essex. It throws no new light on the merits of that case, but a great deal on Lord Macaulay's method of working. Prof. Lightfoot's eighth article on "Supernatural Religion" deals with the letter of the Churches of Vienna and Lyons, and with Irenæus. There is a telling exposure of the preposterous assumption that our Gospels could have been unknown and unused at Lyons twelve years at most before Irenæus wrote his third book, which the author of *Supernatural Religion* only brings down to A.D. 190 by arguing boldly to the date of Theodotion from a passage of Epiphanius which is full of blunders; a method of procedure which, as Prof. Lightfoot remarks, does not entitle him to put Irenæus out of court as too uncritical to be a credible witness to simple matters of fact. Mr. Peter Bayne has a second article on Clarendon as unctuous and magisterial as his first; the assurance with which he corrects Von Ranke is especially admirable.

PROF. CAMPBELL'S concluding article on the "Revision of the English New Testament" insists on a series of changes which would seriously disparage the Athanasian doctrine of the Trinity and the Incarnation. S. R. Gardiner has a very curious and instructive paper on the political element in Massinger. The *Bondman* is referred to the period of Pembroke's opposition to Buckingham, then lately appointed Lord Admiral, and Middlesex. The *Great Duke of Florence*, written when the Herberts were reconciled to Buckingham, has one or two allusions to Buckingham's high favours. *Believe as you List* was not licensed on political grounds. It is shown that Antiochus represents Frederick of Bohemia as much as or more than Sebastian of Portugal in his remorse for the unsuccessful enterprise undertaken in defiance of the warning of friend and foe (James and Maximilian of Bavaria), his unsuccessful application to Carthage (an allegory for Holland), while Prusias is Charles, Philoxenus Weston, and Flaminius Colonna, the Spanish ambassador. In the *Maid of Honour* Ferdinand of Urbino is Frederick again. Robert King of Sicily is James, whose conduct is represented from the popular point of view as altogether contemptible. The reason for attacking James, Mr. Gardiner thinks, is that Charles was just then supporting Gustavus in the same half-hearted way in which his father had supported Frederick. Lord Blachford proves from Mill's *Autobiography* that Benthamism is not an adequate rule of conduct for finely-strung natures, and that Mill's later moral theories were not very consistent: he appears from his title to regard these facts as illustrations of the reality of duty.

IN the *Fortnightly Review* D. Mackenzie Wallace's account of the territorial expansion of Russia is clear and interesting, especially as showing why it was easier to colonise the forests than the steppes. There are some odd details as to the present half-converted state of the Finnic tribes of the North. The editor's first paper on Robespierre, who is represented as a "pedant cursed with the ambition to be a ruler of men," carries us down to August 10, 1792. James Sully gives a good précis of "Hartmann's Philosophy of the Unconscious," with some criticisms for the most part more contemptuous than penetrating. That he does not convince professed metaphysicians and physicians and does convince men of the world, whom they do not convince, does not prove his speculations to be worthless: it is only an illustration of the general rule that science and common sense seldom are perfect enough to reach the same results by different roads and express them in equivalent terms. When the results of science and cultivated common sense differ, either may be right or both may be wrong.

IN *Macmillan* Sir Bartle Frere begins a summary of the information about the Khojas that came out in the trial before Sir Joseph Arnold, which established that Mohammad Hussain Hooseini, otherwise Aga Khan, is the hereditary chief and unrevealed Imam of the Ismaili, and heir-at-law to the Old Man of the Mountain. The Rev. W. J. Loftie has a clear and readable paper on the physical geography of the country between Hampstead and Sydenham, called "London Before the Houses." J. Oxenford's paper on the Brigands of Bulgarian Song suggests a reflection that the brigands of Bulgaria have inherited the trappings of purely mythological beings, which is certainly the case with the outlaws of Iceland, and probably with the outlaws of Sherwood.

IN the *Cornhill* there is a collection of Buddhist aphorisms from Japan which circulate under the name of the teacher who established Buddhism there: they are quite unspiritual. Mr. Austin Dobson's stanzas on the "Child Violinist" make an obvious point very skilfully. "When the Sea was Young" is a description of the condition of things when the earth was too hot for water to

rest on it and when its atmosphere was far larger than now, illustrated by references to the belts of Jupiter and the square-shouldered appearance of Saturn, which it is assumed are now in the state through which the earth passed long ago.

IN *Belgravia* R. A. Proctor gives an account of the Lunar Hoax which Nicolle devised to avenge himself on Arago, and R. A. Locke expanded to the admiration of the American public.

IN *Temple Bar* there is a story of a "Famous Excommunication" launched against the thief of one of the first three olive plants imported into Peru, who was not detected till he had made his fortune by the theft, when he made restitution handsomely.

IN *Fraser* Dr. Sandwith describes a journey from Belgrade to Constantinople. He finds that the Circassians have become very shabby by reason of their transfer to Europe, but observes that Midhat Pasha's roads round Nisch (which are still kept up by the Government and will soon be kept up by the people) are better than any in Serbia, and, in fact, good enough for England. Colonel H. A. Browne gives a convenient summary from French sources of the history of Cochin China, and the steps by which the French have established their ascendancy there. The "Burmese Tale" is of the common type. One act of good-nature miraculously remained; it has received a Buddhist colouring. "J. A. F." thinks he can tell Cicero's story of the case of Cluentius better than Cicero, that the whole of this story is certainly true, and that the senatorian judges under Sulla's constitution were all pure patricians: it is doubtful whether half of them were even "noble." The paper is called "Society in Italy in the Last Days of the Roman Republic." The writer turns with weariness and distrust from the philosophy of history, from attempts to explain the phenomena of earlier generations by referring them to general principles.

OBITUARY.

CHILDERS, Prof. R. C., July 25, aged 38.
COLLINS, Mortimer, at Richmond, July 28, aged 49.
HENRY, Dr. James, near Dublin, July 14, aged 78. [Author of many curious researches and studies on the *Aeneid*.]
LONSDALE, Dr. H., at Carlisle, July 23, aged 60. [Author of *Worthies of Cumberland*.]

SIR J. W. KAYE.

THE death of Sir John William Kaye, K.C.S.I., F.R.S., on the 24th ult. leaves a blank not easily filled among our writers of current history. British India has been fortunate in possessing a chronicler of so much official experience and literary power—one who could impart a charm to his narrative without rejecting those manifold details which, however dry in themselves, essentially belong to the pages of a faithful record, but which in unskilful hands become wearisome and unreadable. His published volumes are too familiar to the reading public to need particular enumeration. Those which have justly won for him the highest reputation, and have raised a lasting monument of his ability and usefulness, describe the *War in Afghanistan*: they form a work combining the attractiveness of romance with the worth of historical reality. Of another well-known history, the *Sepoy War in India*, he wrote many brilliant pages, and had probably achieved three-fourths of his contemplated task; but he never lived to complete the record. As a biographer he has laboured to good purpose. The careers of distinguished Indian Administrators must always be full of instruction and example to those called upon to play a part, however small, on the stage of Indian government; and Kaye's materials in this respect have not been frittered away or wasted. Malcolm's Life, to take an instance, is just what it should be—just what it professes to be, and no more. The writer never suffers himself to stray from his subject; nor does he at any time appear

to wish to stray. We might object to the book, had it been an account of our dealings with Sindia, Holkar, and the Shah of Persia. Not a word of objection can be offered to it as the *Life and Correspondence of Sir John Malcolm*. Among later and less conspicuous publications, the Memoir of Bishop Wilson of Calcutta will not have been overlooked by the readers of *Good Words*; but the sweetly-expressed thoughts pervading the sonnets of April and December, 1874, in the same serial, should have an especial interest for admirers. Sir John Kaye was in the sixty-third year of his age. Born in London, in 1814, he passed out, as a young man of eighteen, from the East India Company's Military College at Addiscombe into the Bengal Artillery. Resigning the service in 1841, he betook himself to literary pursuits; and after a period of some three or four years, during which he started the *Calcutta Review*, he left India to commence a professional literary career at home. In 1856 he joined the Home Civil Service, and was eventually appointed Secretary in the Secret and Political Department of the India Office, a post which he filled from the transfer of the Government of India to the Crown up to his retirement from public life in 1874. In recognition of his long and important services to the State he was, in 1871, enrolled among the Knight Companions of the Star of India. His loss will be much regretted by many who had the advantage of his personal acquaintance and could appreciate his kindness of disposition. Independently of high intellectual attainments, he was a warm-hearted and sincere friend and genial companion. He was one of the officers serving on the General Committee of the Royal Literary Fund. F. J. GOLDSMID.

PROFESSOR CHILDERS.

WHEN noticing lately the death of Prof. Lassen, who just fifty years ago published, with Eugène Burnouf, the first European work on Pāli grammar, we little expected to have to deplore so soon the loss of the scholar who has done more than anyone else to advance the knowledge of Pāli and Buddhist literature. Prof. Childers, who was the son of the Rev. Charles Childers, English chaplain at Nice, first began the study of Pāli in Ceylon, having been appointed to the Ceylon Civil Service at the end of the year 1860. For three years he acted as private secretary to the then Governor, Sir Charles McCarthy, and had become Assistant Government Agent in Kandy, when ill health compelled him in March, 1864, to return to Europe. While in the service he had taken great pains to understand the modes of thought and feeling of the Sinhalese, and gave up one of his vacations to acquire a more thorough knowledge of the native language and literature than was required by the rules of the Service: those who have realised how precious are the few holidays and leisure hours of a hardworked official in the East will know how to appreciate such an act. It was in this vacation, spent at the Bentota Rest-house, that he began the study of Pāli under the guidance of Yātrāmulle Unnāse, a Buddhist scholar of great learning, and of peculiar dignity and modesty, for whom his distinguished pupil retained to the last a deep personal regard. After his return home Mr. Childers greatly improved in health, but did not at first intend to carry on his Oriental studies; indeed, it was chiefly owing to the advice and encouragement of Dr. Rost that he was induced in the autumn of 1868 to recommence in earnest the study of Pāli. Already in November, 1869, he published his first contribution to the literature of the subject—the Pāli text of the Khuddaka Pāṭha, with an English translation and notes (*Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*). With the exception of Fausbøll's *Dhammapada*, this collection of Buddhist hymns was the only part of the Buddhist *Pitakas* actually printed in Europe; and it is a striking proof of the author's

genius that later investigation should have revealed no blot on this early work. The greatest obstacle to any real knowledge of Pāli was the want of a Pāli dictionary, and this want Mr. Childers set himself to supply; though it was a task from which many a scholar less enterprising and less self-sacrificing would have shrunk. To this work he devoted the following years, the work gradually rising in aim and scope under his hand; and the first volume was only published in 1872. In the meanwhile he published his views on Nirvāna first in *Trübner's Literary Record*, in 1870, and afterwards in his *Notes on the Dhammapada*, in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, May, 1871, completing and summing up the discussion in the long article on Nibbāna at the close of Volume I. of the Dictionary. It is not too much to say that these papers have finally settled a much-debated question as far, at least, as to the meaning of Nirvāna as used in the *Pitakas* themselves. In the autumn of 1872 he was appointed sub-librarian at the India Office. Early in 1873 he contributed a paper on Buddhist metaphysics to Prof. Cowell's edition of Colebrooke's *Essays*, and commenced a series of papers in the *J. R. A. S.* on the Sinhalese language. In the same year he accepted the appointment of professor of Pāli and Buddhist literature at University College, London—the first instance of a professor being appointed specially for this subject. In 1874 was published the first part of his edition of the *Mahā-parinibbāna Sutta*, that part of the *Sutta Pitaka* which gives an account of the last few days of the life of Gautama Buddha. In 1875 appeared the second paper on Sinhalese, in which that language was conclusively proved to be of Sanskrit and not of Dravidian origin. During these years Prof. Childers was sedulously engaged in completing the second volume of his Pāli Dictionary, which, much larger and fuller than the first part, was published only in the autumn of last year. This great and important work has already been welcomed throughout Europe as the most valuable contribution that has yet been made to the knowledge of Pāli, and as the foundation of all future study of that language.

After the completion of the dictionary, Prof. Childers with unwearied zeal looked forward to renewed activity. Early in 1876 appeared the second part of the *Mahā-parinibbāna Sutta*; he had undertaken, with Mr. Fausbøll of Copenhagen a complete edition of the Buddhist *Jātaka Stories*, and he had promised to contribute translations from the *Pitakas* to Prof. Max Müller's projected series of translations from the Sacred Books of the East. He was also working at the completion of his long-announced *Pāli Grammar*, and contemplated editions of several Pāli texts which he had already transcribed and made use of for his dictionary. But all this was not to be. Rapid consumption followed upon a cold contracted in the early part of this year; and he passed away on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at Weybridge, in the thirty-eighth year of his age. It is almost impossible as yet to realise how great the loss has been to science. To an unusually powerful memory and a penetrating intellect Prof. Childers united an indomitable energy, and above all a singleminded devotion to truth, and an earnestness in the cause of research, rare even among students in new and promising fields. His mind was singularly open to new ideas; he was most generous in his appreciation of others; and so little was he troubled with that dislike of opposition sometimes found in literary men, that he was glad to welcome corrections from any quarter, and was often the first to point out his own mistakes. In thinking of him now two names rise involuntarily to the mind: those of James Prinsep and Eugène Burnouf; and with the last especially his memory will always be associated. The accomplished countrymen of Burnouf, who have done and are doing so much in similar studies, will be gratified to know that the graceful tribute paid to his genius by the In-

stitute of France, in adjudging to him the Volney Prize of 1876, for the best philological work of the year, was announced to him in time to give him pleasure during the last days of his life. Outside the circle of Oriental students the large number of those who are interested in the history of religious belief will feel how inexpressibly sad is the premature death of a scholar who had, indeed, accomplished much, but whose promise was even greater still; and Orientalists will never use the name of Prof. Childers without a tender feeling of reverent and of grateful regret.

T. W. RHYS DAVIDS.

MR. MORTIMER COLLINS.

THE death of Mr. Mortimer Collins, in early middle life, will cause sincere regret, not merely to his personal friends, but to that part of the reading public which knew him only in his literary character of novelist and poet. His novels, of which there are several, are almost avowedly extravagant—indeed, he gave one of them, by no means the most fanciful, the alternative title of *Midsummer Madness*—and have not, so far as general popularity is concerned, obtained more than a *succès d'estime*, since they do not appear, as a rule, to have reached second editions, far less to have ever passed from the circulating-library form into the more convenient and inexpensive shape of railway-stall literature. Nevertheless, their merit is much greater than that of the majority of the recent tales which have obtained this label of success; for they are one and all lively and readable, besides exhibiting to the initiated a level of culture in the best English and classical learning (perhaps a little too much displayed now and then), which is very uncommon in caterers for public amusement. Probably, had Mr. Collins confided his own opinions about his novels to his friends, he would have based their claims to attention on their wit and their social philosophy. But this would have been like Liston's secret belief in himself as the great tragedian of his age. There is humour very often; there are slashing and telling onslaughts from the High Tory side on many idols of the market-place; and there is a full-blooded animalism, as distinct as may be from prurience, or even grossness, which makes him recall at times the plain-speaking of Fielding's day, and thus lessens the suitability of his works for young ladies' schools, albeit those institutions probably would be found to admit really objectionable matter at times, in which strict verbal propriety has been more carefully studied than by Mr. Collins in his innocuous, if slightly Bohemian, fictions. But wit and philosophy are absent, and, to say the truth, are not missed by his readers. It has been objected to him by critics that he was too fond of giving bills of fare in his novels, and of exhibiting the catholicity of his gastronomic tastes by running up the culinary gamut from cheese and beer to Tokay and Pressburg biscuits. And, in fact, the feats of some of his heroes are almost equal to those of Hercules in the *Alceste*, or of Gargantua himself. But even if he did not reply in the weighty aphorism of Brillat-Savarin, "*Les animaux se repaissent; l'homme mange; l'homme d'esprit seul sait manger*," he might have truthfully retorted that there is much more cookery and eating in such popular American novels for the young person as *The Wide Wide World*, *Queechy*, *The Gayworthys*, and so forth, without a solitary having been lifted in deprecation. As a poet, without ever aiming very high, or, indeed, at doing more than producing facile *vers de société*, Mr. Collins succeeded more nearly than either Mr. Frederick Locker or Mr. Austin Dobson in reproducing the peculiar lyrical flow of the best and easiest French *chansons*, so that he suggests, at however great an interval, Béranger rather than Præd. The gift may not be accounted a very brilliant one, but it is so extremely rare (far rarer than more solid poetical qualities) that critics cannot afford to depreciate it, and many far more

pretentious minor singers of the day could have been much more easily spared than Mr. Mortimer Collins.

RICHARD F. LITTLEDALE.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

LIEUTENANT CONDER has proposed a new site for Emmaus. He finds at the required distance from Jerusalem a place now called *Khamasa*. The word is one of the forms (Emmaus itself—modern *Amwās*—being another) in which the Hebrew *Hammath* might appear in modern Arabic. The place is undoubtedly ancient; there are remains of rock-cut Jewish sepulchres; a tradition of sanctity attaches to it; the ruins of an old Christian Church stand there; and it is on an old Roman road. He also finds near Ain Feshkah, and not far from De Sauley's proposed site of Gomorrah, a name which preserves, while De Sauley's name *Kumran* does not, the equivalents of the Hebrew. The name is *Amriyeh*, and it is applied to a *Tābb* or "table-land," and to a large valley close to the Ras Feshkah. He has further discovered a name and place in his notes which he suggests may be the long-sought-for Ramathaim Zophim. The place is now called *Suffa*. Its claims are, briefly, that it is within the boundaries of Mount Ephraim; it is close to Beth Horon, which was given to the Kohathite Levites; it is the proper equivalent of Zuph (plural Zophim); Samuel was the descendant of a certain Zuph and belonged to the Kohathite Levites; in the required neighbourhood, if *Suffa* be Ramathaim Zophim, lies a place which Lieut. Conder proposes for Sechu: and there is also at *Suffa* a sacred place called *Sh'ehab ad Din*, the "Hero of the Faith." The arrangement and examination of the Survey notes suggest every day more of these identifications, of which the above are the three most important of those recently made. Lieut. Conder is now devoting his attention entirely to the preparation from his notes of the memoirs which will accompany the great map. As a collateral branch of work he has been studying Samaritan topography in the Samaritan Book of Joshua and the Samaritan Chronicle. The result of this investigation and a comparison with his notes have given him materials for a long and valuable paper on the whole subject, which will probably appear in the next *Quarterly Statement* of the Palestine Fund.

M. LOUIS SAY, writing to the Secretary of the French Geographical Society, announces his intention to make a new journey of exploration in North Africa with M. Largeau during the coming winter. The chief object is to endeavour to open up the commercial routes between the basin of the Niger and Algeria, and to make the ports of the French colony the outlets of these lines. The travellers will try to penetrate the country of the Touareg, and to explore the mass of mountains of Ahaggar, following up the work of M. Duveyrier, endeavouring so to conciliate the Touareg, who command all the routes, as to be able to entrust them with the conduct of future caravans. M. Say and M. Largeau will leave Constantine together, going south to Biskra, Tuggurt, and Wargla, where they will separate: M. Largeau, with an Arab escort, going south-west to Insalah; M. Say, with a following of Kabyles and Touareg, keeping south directly to Temassinin and Idelès. While M. Say is exploring in Ahaggar M. Largeau will go on to Timbuctoo.

In the July number of *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, the traveller Gerhard Rohlfs criticises the results of M. Largeau's second journey to Rhadames, in 1875, and the failure of his attempt to turn the caravan traffic of the Oasis from its natural channel through Tripoli towards an Algerian port; pointing out also that M. Say's assertion of the increasing sympathy of the Touareg race with the French is in direct opposition to the known facts that the Touareg have no political organisation, but are simply an ethnographically-connected race, with whose many divisions and

tribes it would be impossible to enter into lasting relations of friendship. The chief reason, he maintains, why Algeria had not become a French province, as it might have been made, is that its native Berber and Arab peoples have never assimilated, but remain constantly a separate element of population, though French officials and travellers talk constantly of a sympathy which does not exist. Peaceable colonisation will only be possible after the natives have been driven backwards forcibly into the deserts. The same number of *Petermann* contains an important article on "The Ethnographic History of European Turkey," by F. von Stein, which is of great interest at the present time. On a large map which follows this paper the scattered areas of the country occupied by purely Turkish populations are brought out distinctly, as well as the distinction of religion—Mohammedan, Christian, or Jewish—in each Sanjak of the Empire.

THE *Journal* of the Geographical Society of Berlin for this month is chiefly occupied by the continuation of the report of the *Gazelle* expedition, containing descriptions of the banks of the river Congo from Banana to Boma, and Dr. Studer's zoological observations in the same region. To a general account of the *Gazelle's* work in the island of Kerguelen are appended Dr. Husker's zoological observations, and Dr. F. Naumann's paper on the "Flora of Kerguelen." Dr. H. Kiepert contributes a paper on the "Cartography of European Turkey," a subject on which he is certainly the highest authority. The geography of this portion of Europe, the only part of the Continent in which no general survey has been begun by its Government, still rests upon very fragmentary, and often very unsafe, data, the combination of which into a general map is a laborious and, after all, unsatisfactory essay. A partial exception to this rule is found in a survey of the Sanjak of Filihe (Philippopolis), undertaken by the direction of the provincial governor, Mehmed-Nusret Pasha, a copy of the original of which was obtained by Dr. Kiepert at Constantinople in 1870, and a valuable translation and reduction of which map he has given along with this paper.

WE learn from the official *Gaceta de Madrid* that the Spanish Government has appointed a commission to inquire into the physical conditions and possibilities of the Philippine Islands. A Professor of Botany is to accompany the expedition to report on the nature of the flora of the interior, and on the condition and extent of the forests. A careful survey is to be taken of the entire group, and a map, drawn up on a large scale, is in consequence to be published. The mountain-ranges are to be the objects of a special investigation; the height of all the salient points is to be accurately ascertained, and all traces of metallic products to be noted. The officers in charge of the expedition are to take such notes of observation as shall enable them on their return to draw up an exhaustive monograph on the entire physical condition of the islands. It is to be expected that many branches of scientific enquiry will profit by this research in a so long neglected and most interesting region.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris: July 29, 1876.

The recent discussion in the Senate on the subject of the conferment of degrees has called public attention to the intellectual rôle played by the Catholic party in France at the present day. I need hardly remind you that the question to be decided was whether the degrees which are the means of access to the liberal professions should continue to be conferred by the State professors of the various faculties alone, or whether, in the case of the pupils of the free Catholic universities, professors selected from these universities should be added to the State professors so as to form

mixed juries. The Chamber of Deputies, in agreement with the Minister of Public Instruction, decided for the first solution; but the Senate has maintained the mixed juries established by the so-called Law for the Liberty of the Higher Instruction of 1875. The brilliant debates to which this law has just given rise, and particularly the speeches of MM. Challemeil Lacour and Jules Simon, have been the most important literary event of the month of July.

The real question at stake is not that of conferring degrees, but that of the very constitution of the Catholic universities. Frenchmen who are strangers to religious fanaticism, and are desirous to see preserved a truly vigorous and undivided national sentiment, are alarmed at the thought that a part of our young men will henceforward be separated from the rest of the nation throughout all their years of study, and brought up in ideas bitterly hostile to modern France. The Catholic party in fact tends more and more to live in isolation from the whole movement of thought, to create an intellectual and moral life apart. Allow me to profit by the respite in the publication of new books caused by the summer heats to speak of this Catholic movement.

From a political and religious point of view, the Catholics are as a rule Legitimists and Ultramontanes. The official journal of the party is the *Union*, which has always preserved in its tone and conduct something dignified and chivalrous; while the *Gazette de France* tries unsuccessfully to give itself a livelier and more liberal tinge. The *Univers* addresses itself to the lower instincts of the party, and, by the medium of M. Veuillot's biting, and on occasion eloquent, pen, makes it its business to insult and calumniate its adversaries. Legitimist in principle, it yet inclines without ceremony towards Bonapartism. The *Défense Religieuse et Sociale*, recently founded by Mgr. Dupanloup, neglects the political dissensions of the reactionary party to devote itself wholly to attacking the Republic. The *Univers* is the only one of these papers which is written with ability.

The representatives of these religious and political ideas in the professorial chair and the pulpit are not, as a rule, men of much mark. They derive their lustre wholly from the nullity of those about them. Nothing can be more turgid and declamatory than the eloquence of Father Félix and Father Monsabré. The one great orator that the Catholic Church has possessed of late years, Father Hyacinthe, was never an Ultramontane, and now has almost ceased to be a Catholic. M. Chesnelong is totally devoid of all oratorical power; Mgr. Dupanloup, who won a deserved reputation as a Liberal Catholic, seems to have utterly lost his intellectual balance since he became an Ultramontane, and among his mental qualities there is no force and no fairness left. His last publication, *Où allons-nous?* is a dull and almost drivelling pamphlet that proves nothing. There remains M. de Mun, ex-captain of cuirassiers, the apostle of the Catholic working-men's clubs, but for all his apostleship a man of the world and the idol of the ladies. He has real talent, marvellous facility of elocution and gesture, great purity of style, the warmth and accent of conviction. But beware of reading his speeches; they are mere rhetoric—clever and agreeable, it is true, but unconvincing and not always very ingenious. I am only speaking, you will understand, of the really Catholic and clerical orators and writers, of those who belong with all their heart to the Ultramontane party, not of those lukewarm folk who, like M. de Broglie or the Bonapartists, support Catholicism from motives of policy. Nor am I speaking of the purely religious and devout press and literature, which are remarkable almost solely for their utter imbecility.

But it is not through the medium of the daily press, or of its pulpit and professorial eloquence, that the Catholic party exercises its greatest influence; it is by the part which it plays in the sphere of education, literary and scientific. In

education it began by acquiring liberty of primary instruction, while with the support of the Government it kept in the hands of the teaching Orders a large proportion of the State schools. Next it obtained liberty of secondary instruction, and France is covered with colleges of Jesuits, Dominicans, Marists, &c. Finally, it has just obtained liberty of the higher education, and numerous free faculties have been founded. They are not very conspicuous as yet, either for the brilliant merit of their professors or for the number of their students, but they may make progress as time goes on. If all these schools had taken vigorously in hand the cause of educational reform, had shown themselves superior to the State establishments where routine is all in all, they might have exercised enormous influence. Unfortunately—or, fortunately, perhaps—they have servilely followed the programme and methods of the *lycées*, and have had no object but that of turning out as many engineers, officers, magistrates, doctors, devoted to their own ideas as they possibly could, and they have, in fact, succeeded in producing a very considerable number. Nor have they sent out any distinguished men in mathematics or the natural sciences, and, in fact, nothing can be more hostile to the scientific spirit than the theocratic spirit; nor have they produced a single poet. The only Catholic poet in France is M. de Laprade, who is really and truly a Pantheist, and who adores in Catholicism the sole form of paganism which has retained any semblance of vitality. As to novelists, the Catholic party again possesses but one, Mme. Augustus Craven, authoress of *Récits d'une Sœur*, a writer of delicate and subtle genius, but not to be mentioned in comparison with a real novelist—George Sand, for instance.

There is only one branch of studies in which the Catholic party distinguishes itself—namely, in works of scholarship, in those at least relating to the Middle Ages. It produces neither Orientalists, nor Greek scholars, nor Latin scholars; but it produces historians and Romance philologists. They are not, it is true, men of powerful intellect, skilled to generalise or to create. The narrowness of the ideas imposed upon them forbids them wide horizons and large thoughts; but they are good, skilful and courageous workers. Their religious and political convictions likewise induce them to take refuge in the Middle Ages, to make known all their noble aspects, to penetrate into their every phase. This is what leads a very large number of the most highly gifted among the young Catholics to study at the *Ecole des Chartes*; and their selection has gained the *Ecole*, which is really conducted in the most independent spirit, an unjust reputation for clericalism. The most important work undertaken by this Catholic school of learning is beyond dispute the *Revue des Questions Historiques*, edited by M. de Beaucourt. The writers show a party bias and a passion that affect no concealment; but the *Revue* contains a great number of learned contributions, and a great store of valuable information with regard to the progress of historical studies, both in France and abroad. MM. Boutaric, de Beaucourt, and Riant, are favourably known to all who study the history of the Middle Ages; and the brilliant success of this *Revue*, which has over 1,500 subscribers, is certainly well deserved. It gives the best idea of the learned activity of the Catholic party in France. Nor has its indefatigable and learned editor confined his efforts to this one creation. He has also established a bibliographical *Revue*, the *Polybiblion*, a monthly periodical which keeps its readers posted up in all the new publications, French and foreign. The latter department is somewhat neglected; devotional works occupy a large space which might be much better employed; and the ultra-Catholic point of view of the contributors is even more offensive than in the *Revue des Questions Historiques*; but the *Polybiblion* is the only general bibliographical journal existing in France, and it is consequently useful and largely patronised.

M. de Beaucourt is likewise the founder of a Bibliographical Society, which provides its members with a reading-club, and which also undertakes the simultaneous publication of propagandist tractates and of learned works. While the Abbé U. Chevalier is about to publish for this Society a *Dictionary of the Sources of Mediaeval History*, which will be exceedingly solid and valuable, it is scattering abroad a host of little treatises on contemporary questions handled from the standpoint of the narrowest Ultramontanism. But it still does its best to popularise in brief works based on contemporary authorities the history of mediaeval France.

In the department of Romance philology the Catholic school is represented by M. Léon Gautier, professor at the *Ecole des Chartes*, and author of an admirable work on the French mediaeval Epics, who has for some years past with meritorious zeal constituted himself the propagator, and, so to speak, the apostle, of the *Chanson de Roland*. M. Sepet may be mentioned beside him, but has produced no very considerable work.

M. Paul Riant has made himself a name by his profound knowledge of the history of the Crusades. He has founded a Society for the History of the Latin East, which will do good service, and which, fortunately, has no narrow religious character.

With this group of ardent and distinguished men must be mentioned the writers of the *Correspondant*, a bi-monthly Review, which made its reputation as the organ of Liberal Catholicism when that variety of Catholicism existed. But at the present day Lacordaire and Montalembert are dead, A. de Broglie, De Falloux, Dupanloup are Liberals no longer. The *Correspondant* remains a well-written Review, but it is assuming more and more that character of historical learning which is the distinguishing mark of the modern Catholic School. We should also mention the *Revue du Monde Catholique* and the *Etudes historiques de la Société de Jésus*; but these are little known and of little merit.

To sum up what I have said, passing over the practical activity of Catholicism, so powerful and in many respects still so grand, contemporary French Catholicism scarcely shows any intellectual vitality except in works of historical learning and research. This is not enough to make us fear to see it assume the control of men's minds; and if the State will but reform its higher education in a liberal sense, it will be easy for it to reduce to zero the importance of the new Catholic universities.

G. MONOD.

SELECTED BOOKS.

General Literature.

- DAUDET, Alphonse. *Les Femmes d'artistes*. Paris: Lemerre. 3 fr. 50 c.
 MARSON, R. O. *Three Centuries of English Poetry*: being Selections from Chaucer to Herrick. Macmillan.
 TICKNOR'S Memoirs: being the Life, Letters, and Journals of George Ticknor. Sampson Low & Co. 24s.

History.

- HOEHLZ, M. *Fasti Praetorii ab a. n. DCLXXXVII. usque ad a. n. DCCC.* Leipzig: Hinrichs. 3 M.
 SPITTA, W. *Zur Geschichte Abul-Hasan al-As'ari's*. Leipzig: Hinrichs. 3 M.
 STANLEY, Very Rev. A. P. *Lectures on the History of the Jewish Church*. Third Series. From the Captivity to the Christian Era. Murray.

Physical Science.

- CLAUS, C. *Untersuchungen zur Erforschung der genealogischen Grundlage d. Crustaceen-Systeme*. Wien: Gerolds Sohn. 40 M.
 COEN, P. *Beiträge zur Biologie der Pflanzen*. 2. Bd. 1. Hft. Breslau: Korn. 7 M.

Philology.

- FLACH, H. *Das dialektische Dignama d. Hesiodos*. Berlin: Weidmann. 2 M.
 HAAS, E. *Catalogue of Sanskrit and Pali Books in the British Museum*. Trübner. 21s.
 PEPPERELLER, R. *Commentar d. 24. Buches der Illas m. Einleitung*. Berlin: Weidmann. 14 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LANGUAGE AND RACE.

Queen's College, Oxford: August 1, 1876.

I am sorry that Mr. Whitmee had not been able to see my paper on "Language and Race" before he wrote his letter about it, as he would have found that the short abstract of it to which he refers does not convey a very clear idea of what I have urged. The main point of the paper was to show that we cannot safely argue from language to race. In other words the sciences of comparative philology and ethnology do not cover the same ground. Language is a social product; its science deals with communities, not with races. Wherever community and race are equivalent terms, there and there only is language alone a test of race. In other cases it may raise a presumption in favour of the common racial origin of two populations, but unless this presumption be borne out by physiological considerations it must be discarded. Taking Mr. Whitmee's illustration, the relationship between the languages of the Maories and the Hawaiians shows that the ancestors of each once lived in close contact, either in Hawaii itself or in some other country; but before we can conclude that these ancestors belonged to the same races we must call in the assistance of ethnology. No doubt, in this particular case, as in many others, the original connexion between the communities makes it probable that there was also an original connexion of race. If physiology, however, determines otherwise comparative philology cannot be accused of running counter to its conclusions. The two sciences deal with a different subject-matter, and a different set of facts. Race precedes society, and with society language begins. It is with race that physiology and ethnology are concerned; the science of language knows nothing of man until he has become "a social animal." A. H. SAYCE.

A SWISS ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

Campfer, Engadin: July 29, 1876.

Prof. A. F. Kym has just issued suggestions for the formation of a Swiss Academy of Sciences. In addition to its four High Schools, Switzerland possesses two Academies (Lausanne and Neuchâtel), which only need the Medical Faculty in order to take rank as complete universities. The maintenance of the High Schools is already a great strain upon the funds of the Cantons in which they are situated, and it is impossible to keep them up to the level of the German universities with such means as the Cantons can provide out of their own resources. The Canton of Zürich, with about 280,000 inhabitants, is at present spending more than 1,500,000 francs a year for educational purposes. Prof. Kym draws a sad picture of a possible future in which Zürich may be compelled to break with its proud historical past and injure itself and the whole of Eastern Switzerland by the dissolution of its university. He thinks that the University Cantons, which do so much for the whole Swiss Confederation, have a claim upon the whole. "A Confederate University, the ideal of our youth," he says, "is purely impossible under our present relations. The individual formation of our Confederacy demands individual centres of culture and education." Then there is not only the historical individuality of the Cantons, which each Canton desires to keep, but the national individuality of the *Deutsch* and the *Walsh* stocks, each justly insisting on its own importance and significance in relation to past and present culture. The only institution which can give unity to Swiss scientific progress, without interfering with the individuality and autonomy of the existing Cantonal Universities, is, contends Prof. Kym, a Confederate Swiss Academy of Sciences. He virtually proposes that the Confederation, apart from grants to the Cantonal Universities, should endow men of eminence "in the pure and productive sciences." The persons thus endowed would form the germ of the Swiss

Academy: around this germ other scientific men might be grouped, whether or not holding any sphere of work in the universities. "In the fire of science," he says, "all those differences which divide the professor extraordinary from the ordinary professor, and the professor from the tutor, should be burnt up." By "the pure and productive sciences" Prof. Kym understands the Natural Sciences in the widest range of the term Nature—Mathematics, Philology, History, and Philosophy. A theologian ought not to be admitted to the Academy as such; but he will often be admissible as a philologist or historian, or as expert in some other science. He also proposes that the philosophical faculties of the Cantonal High Schools should be supported by the powerful arm of the whole Swiss Confederacy. The whole Confederacy, as he says, has taken care that the common school shall be good and thorough throughout its jurisdiction: it cannot consistently treat the highest culture as a matter of merely cantonal concern. Through some such centralisation of science, and support and recognition of its study as an affair of national importance, he thinks it probable that many a Switzer who now devotes fine faculties to trade, might turn them into the road of science; probably, too, many a rich and noble-minded citizen who remembers the sick in his last testament might be mindful of the help which is needed by the sound intelligence of the land. I have given a very slight summary of Prof. Kym's detailed suggestions, which are set forth with great zeal and glow. He naturally enough thinks that Switzerland has, from its political and race-conditions, a peculiar call to become an intellectual nation. He dwells upon the happy situation of Geneva as fitting it to be the seat of the freest science. T. HANCOCK.

SCIENCE.

The Octopus, or the "Devil-Fish" of Fiction and of Fact. By Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., &c. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1875.)

EXCEPT to a few naturalists and the yet rarer students of Pontoppidan and De Montfort, the octopus was almost unknown until Victor Hugo drew attention to it a few years ago in the pages of *Les Travaillleurs de la Mer*. It is true that centuries ago Aristotle had minutely described the life and habits of the monster, but his *History of Animals* is not a college text-book, nor have its contents been regarded in past times without suspicion. In this particular instance it was thought that fishermen had imposed upon the credulity of the philosopher as travellers had upon that of the Father of History, and it is only in very recent days that the accuracy both of Aristotle and Herodotus has been largely established. Mr. Lee, the latest and the pleasantest writer upon the subject, goes so far as to say that the Stagirite's account of the habits and reproduction of the octopus "clearly show that he was more intimately acquainted with its mode of life than any writer of later date between his day and ours."

In England the popularity, if we may so call it, of the octopus is almost wholly due to M. Hugo's romance. The public flocked to the Brighton Aquarium to see the devil-fish with whom Gilliatt, like a second Perseus, had engaged in deadly combat, and in whose den he had discovered the human skeleton with its hoard of wealth. Perhaps a little disappointment was felt when the

captured specimen was found to fall short of the novelist's sensational description, but there was an air of mystery about its habits which kept alive the curiosity of the public during its brief sojourn in the tank. Its end was ignoble. It was devoured by a common dog-fish, whose powers and propensities had escaped suspicion. But its place was speedily supplied by another specimen, and during the last three years there have been abundant opportunities for examining the construction and habits of this remarkable creature, and, we may add, for correcting the errors into which M. Hugo had fallen.

The octopus is a distinguished member of the *Cephalopoda*, and nearly related both to the Argonaut, or "Paper Nautilus," and the common squids and cuttles. Its chief characteristic is the possession of eight arms, or prehensile organs, furnished with numerous sucking discs, by means of which it is enabled to adhere firmly to any substance with which they come in contact. The usual habit of the animal is to rest suspended from a rock by the suckers of several of its arms, and, while its body is concealed in some cranny or recess, to allow the rest of its feelers to float loosely in the surrounding water. The instant a fish, crustacean or mollusc, touches any of these arms, the suckers are drawn inwards, the air exhausted, and the victim secured by a pneumatic process which is almost irresistible in power.

It will be evident, therefore, that if the octopus attained to any great size it would be as formidable to an unarmed man as to any other creature that chanced to come within its grasp. And there are many well-authenticated instances of men having been dragged under water and drowned by devil-fishes of unusual size. It is small consolation to be told that the octopus does not seize a man for the purpose of devouring him, or even of converting his dead body into bait for crabs, which are the animal's favourite food. It only follows its instinct in laying hold on anything moving that comes within its reach, and in clinging to it with a persistency which is more than embarrassing. It is well to know that it can be made to relax its grasp if it be seized tightly by what looks like its throat, and that, if left to itself, it is much more likely to decline than to provoke a contest.

In the Mediterranean and on the coasts of Newfoundland the octopus sometimes attains a body-length of six or seven feet, with tentacles from twenty to forty feet long; and two years ago one was discovered by some fishermen near Boffin Island, Connemara, the arms of which measured ten feet, and the tentacles thirty feet—if the report be genuine.

But, happily for nervous bathers, these dimensions are never attained on the coast of England, and visitors to Brighton are not likely to meet with a specimen outside the walls of the Aquarium. Mr. Lee, indeed, found one at the table of a distinguished neighbour, and was politely pressed to partake of the delicacy; but his recorded experience is not such as to induce fishmongers to submit the octopus to the approval of "a discerning public." Yet there can be

no doubt that the creature, however unappealing in appearance, is sufficiently palatable when well-cooked, and that it is highly appreciated in many parts of Europe, and especially on the coasts of South America.

Mr. Lee's monograph is agreeably written, full of gossip and good stories, and his chapter upon the reproduction of the octopus is a valuable contribution to Natural History.

CHARLES J. ROBINSON.

Nouvelle Grammaire Française, fondée sur l'histoire de la langue, à l'usage des établissements d'instruction secondaire. Par Auguste Brachet. (Paris: Hachette et Co, 1874.)

M. BRACHET is well known as the author of (among other books) a *Historical Grammar* and an *Etymological Dictionary* of his own language, both of which are very popular, and have been translated into English; in the present work he aims, with the advantage of experience, at utilising the history of French for the practical teaching of its modern grammar. As he well remarks, though it is worse than absurd to suppose that a child may be allowed to rely on its understanding and dispense with memory, the historical explanation of grammatical facts and rules is valuable not only as a means of cultivating the understanding, but as an aid to memory; provided, as he adds, that children are taught only those results of linguistic science which are well-assured, and that erroneous or doubtful philological notions are strictly proscribed. M. Brachet further states that he has tried to simplify the syntax, chiefly by freeing it from the puerilities of the schoolmen, and to render the study generally more practical by exhibiting the formation of words.

This programme, though now familiar to most English grammarians, is new in France, and so good as to make us greatly regret its being carried out in such a way as to more than neutralise many of its beneficial effects; the book often teaches neither good philology nor good French. Before we have got through the historical introduction we find the following statements: that the loss of the Latin inflections is due to the inability of the Barbarians (why does M. Brachet always use this term, sure to give children a false idea?) to distinguish their sounds; that the phonetic changes from Latin to Old French are Gaulish mispronunciations of Latin; that in Caesar's time two distinct languages were used at Rome, one by the educated, the other by the uneducated; that the former, Classical Latin, was created by the lettered class; and that the Romanic languages are not derived from Classical Latin. That each of these theories is anything but established, every philologist knows, and we are far from being the first to maintain that they contain only enough truth to make them dangerous; to present them dogmatically is an odd way of proscribing dubious philological notions.

The definitions prefixed to the first book, and its title, "Study of Letters," prepare us for the confusion between phonology and orthography which reigns in it. Not throughout: after telling us that words are composed of letters, M. Brachet says

they are composed of sounds, which are represented in writing by signs called letters; and then come some excellent remarks on the badness of French orthography. But, as a whole, the section is a generation behind the age, and a signal example of the effect of putting new cloth into old garments. The account of Modern French sounds is extremely imperfect, some being omitted, and others ludicrously misdescribed (it is said that *ch=sh* and *j=zh* are produced by the throat!); that of the orthography is very incomplete; and the historical information is not unfrequently wrong or deficient. For instance (here, as elsewhere, we give only specimens, for to point out all the errors and omissions would swell our review into an essay), in the paragraph on *x* only two of its values—*ks* and *gz*—are mentioned, the four others (two of them much commoner)—*k*, *s*, *z*, and nothing at all—being omitted; its sounding *ks* or *gz* is given as the reason why *heureux* &c. (does M. Brachet say *dericks*?) do not take *s* in the plural; the orthographical fact that *x* is now used in finals where Old French has *s* or *z* (=ts), and the phonological fact that the sounds these represent derive from Latin *s* or *k* (c), are given as a purely phonological fact of the derivation of French *x*, with its imaginary guttural, from Latin *x* or *c*; while the general loss of final *s* in Modern French, and the frequent case of *x* being written in terminations where Latin had *s* (as in *heureux* itself), are unnoticed. M. Brachet apparently does not suspect that this first book comprises at least ten distinct, though related, enquiries: (1) what sounds now exist in French; (2) what signs (letters, accents, &c.) are in customary use; (3) the origin of the sounds; (4) the origin of the signs; (5) what signs are used to represent each sound; (6) what sounds each sign, or group of signs, represents; (7) the rules for practically applying No. 5; (8) the same for No. 6; (9) the historical reasons for No. 7; (10) the same for No. 8. If a subject is to be properly learnt, still more if its study is to train the mind, the importance of so presenting its elements that they may be thoroughly grasped can hardly be too strongly insisted on; and the confusion existing in the very foundations of M. Brachet's exposition is the more deplorable, as, if grammar is of any use beyond showing how to avoid solecisms of spelling and speech, it is in promoting clearness of thought by analysing, and teaching how to use well, its chief instrument.

It may be urged that to do this first book properly would have required, though enough of the facts are well known, more original thought than M. Brachet professes to give. But this cannot apply to the numerous mistakes and reckless assertions in the historical linguistic paragraphs of the treatise, where M. Brachet had only to follow standard works. Under Latin *o*, its frequent French change to *u* (written *ou*) is omitted; so is the very common derivation of French *z* (soft *s*) from Latin medial *s*, of *v* from medial *v*, of *k* (c) from initial *k* (c). It is stated that Latin *ā* gives French *à*, L. *ā* F. *é*; each really gives both. Old French words are often incorrectly given, as *châtel* for *chastel*,

ouis for *oi* (L. *audio*), *soi* for *soie* (now *sois*). Of false explanations where the true are familiar, we may select the making *y* in *croyant*, *écuyer*, a sound inserted to prevent hiatus; much of the history of the terminations of the imperfect; and the almost incredible derivation of *moi*, *toi*, *soi* from *mī*, *tibi*, *sibi*, though elsewhere M. Brachet himself gives the correct *mē*, *tē*, *sē*. The *is* of *finis* (1st sing. pres. ind., Latin *-isc-o*) is represented as a purely personal termination, while the corresponding *iss* of the plural *finissons* is rightly separated from the *ons*; and more than once the *e* of *aime* is given as the descendant of the *o* of *amo*, whereas the O.-Fr. form is *aim*, *aime* being a comparatively recent analogical form. In other explanations of verbal inflections M. Brachet ignores patent cases of analogy; he says of the irregular perfects that they are all explained by the corresponding Latin forms, forgetting to compare *courus* with *cucurri*, *nuisis* with *nocui*. We should like to know the authority for the assertions that close *e* was unknown to the Romans, that *ti* (at the period of Latin usually studied in schools) was pronounced *ts*, and that Latin *s* was generally soft, as in *salutem* (*sal-*); the last assertion is so astounding as to make us think that M. Brachet's notion and ours of what constitutes a well-established linguistic fact are essentially different. And to speak of certain Old French final letters as "originally naturally silent," shows that he does not realise the important fact that at the beginning, and in the main for centuries after, Old French orthography was phonetic. So far as it was not, and indeed so far as the value of the letters had altered, the phonetic and inflectional comparison of Latin and Old French words in their customary spelling is delusive: a remark specially applicable to M. Brachet's (and the usual) mode of discussing modern French, whereby such a form as *rō*, before vowels generally *rōt*, is given as *rompt*, and compared with *rumpit* as if the only changes were that of *u* into *o* and the loss of *i*—without a hint that all the Latin *m* has vanished except its nasality, that the *p* is totally lost, and that the *t* is but rarely preserved.

Some of the faults of the second book, the "Study of Words," have already been noticed; and we are not about to reproach M. Brachet for having retained the marvellous system of cross-division—partly formal, partly etymological, partly functional, partly signification—which is embodied in the ten parts of speech, nor even for giving us definitions of these and their subdivisions which do not define them. But we had a right to expect that this part would be as full and accurate as in an ordinary grammar; that we should not seek in vain for the feminine adjectives *grecque*, *tierce*, &c., nor be told by rule and examples that the contraction of *de les*, *à les*, to *des*, *aux*, takes place only before masculine nouns beginning with a consonant or aspirated *h*, and that the personal pronoun (not the possessive) *leur* is of the singular number. To judge by M. Brachet's rules, it would be as absurd to apply to a single person *vous chantez* as *ils chantent*; and his statements that the simple tenses mark an action not finished at the time spoken of, and that the preterite, as in *je chantai hier*,

marks an action at a time completely past, hardly agree. The definition of the use of the subjunctive to express that an action depends on another action, and the example, *je veux que tu viennes*, also strike us as discordant; we have not always found other people's actions to depend on our wishes. And what a clumsy and inexact way of stating the simple facts that in course of time *grand*, &c., followed the analogy of the more numerous adjectives whose feminine was in *e*, and that *grande* was written because *grānda*, not *grūnt*, was said, is this!—

"The fourteenth [? twelfth] century, ceasing to understand the reason of this distinction, thought it saw an irregularity in the fact that *grand* made its feminine without *e*, *bon* with; it then gave all these adjectives *e* in the feminine, and wrote *grande*."

Did any earlier century—that is, did the people who then spoke French—understand the reason? or did the fourteenth think about the matter at all?

M. Brachet's *Syntax*, as its shortness makes one expect, is simplified by some of the rules being left out and others wrongly given. It is easy to ridicule "scholastic puerilities," "imperceptible distinctions," "Byzantine subtleties," and "metaphysical apparatus," for logicians and metaphysicians often make wretched grammarians; but it happens that many of these things are founded on fact, and to simplify grammar by ignoring its difficulties is only to encourage looseness of thought and expression. And, on the practical side, it is disappointing when in a doubtful case one consults a grammar, to receive no information but that the correct expression is to be learnt from practice. The rules for the replacement of the possessive pronoun by the personal one with the article, and those for the employment of the subjunctive, are specimens of the inaccuracies gratuitously introduced by M. Brachet: an attempt to follow this one, "Verbs of denying, doubting, supposing, and believing take the indicative when the denial, doubt, or belief is absolutely affirmed; in other cases the subjunctive," causes us to say *nous nions qu'elle est correcte*, while the affirmation of doubt in M. Brachet's example to the second half of his rule, *je doute qu'il fasse beau ce soir*, is as clearly absolute as the example's consequent contradiction of the first half. The reason given for the invariability of the participle in *il a acheté une ferme*—that this stands for *il a acheté cela, une ferme*—is worthy of a grammarian of the prehistorical period; but in general M. Brachet has not attempted to give reasons for his syntactical rules, which are as little explained as those of his predecessors, besides being often much less complete, clear, and correct. In almost every respect this portion of the work is so unsatisfactory as to raise the wish that M. Brachet had studied the subject before attempting the improvement—for which there was plenty of room—of its treatment; it is far behind the English, Latin, and Greek syntax of several English schoolbooks, and on the whole compares very unfavourably with that of ordinary French grammars. The appendix on Analysis is extremely meagre, and based on a familiar, but very shallow, division of our knowledge of things

in general, and words in particular, according to nature, form, and function. The application of the theory is in keeping; the formation of the feminine *princesse* from *prince* is stuck in under "nature," that of *nouvelle* from *nouveau* (-*el*) under "form"—with about equal appropriateness.

After this monotonous fault-finding, it is a pleasure to point out that in some respects M. Brachet's work is in execution, as well as intention, a highly important advance on previous school grammars of French. Some of the rules and explanations are excellently put; the account of the formation of words is a most valuable addition, generally well done; the distinction drawn between words of popular, of literary, and of foreign origin is essential for phonology; and the division of the conjugations into living (-*er* from substantives, -*ir*, participle -*issant*, from adjectives) and dead (-*re*, -*oir*, and -*ir*, participle -*ant*) is admirably adapted to display the resources and continual growth of the language. But the work, as a whole, though its philology is often better than that of M. Brachet's *Grammaire Historique*, is most disappointing, and we should be sorry to compromise the excellent idea on which it is based by recommending its adoption in place of Noël et Chapsal and other guides of our childhood; most teachers and many learners will detect some of its linguistic blunders, unfortunately while accepting others, and use is sure to bring out its grave practical shortcomings. However, the good parts show that M. Brachet is far from having done his best elsewhere; and if he will bring to his by no means easy task sounder knowledge and more reflection, get rid of the superficiality which accepts neat and striking phrases as a substitute for clearness of thought and accuracy of fact, and, above all, abandon the slovenly and hasty mode of work which has left hardly a chapter free from numerous, sometimes gross, mistakes (there are even far too many misprints for a second edition, as our copy is marked), he will yet produce a historical school-grammar worthy of French philology, and with which his name will be honourably associated.

HENRY NICOL.

SCIENCE NOTES.

METEOROLOGY.

Meteorology of Japan.—The latest publication of the Meteorological Office is from the pen of Staff-Commander Tizard of the *Challenger*, who when he was in Japan induced the authorities to allow him to copy their Lighthouse Registers, and has discussed them, presenting their results in the form of charts. As an appendix the Meteorological Office has inserted the means of the various meteorological elements for the district which had been extracted from the logs in the office under the superintendence of Admiral FitzRoy. The whole forms a useful contribution to our knowledge of the meteorology of the China Seas.

Meteorology of South Australia.—Mr. Charles Todd, who seems to embody in his own person much of the scientific knowledge of the colony, being Postmaster-General, Superintendent of Telegraphs, and Government Astronomer, has just issued a reprint from the *Handbook for South Australia*, consisting of a careful discussion of the meteorology of the country. We cannot but say that the value of Mr. Todd's Greenwich training comes out in the thoroughness with which he has

organised the observatory at Adelaide in regard of the means at his disposal. The records dealt with in the paper stretch back for nearly forty years; rainfall observations having been commenced by Sir G. S. Kingston, the present Speaker of the House of Assembly, in 1839. As might be anticipated in a new colony, with a sub-tropical climate and pursuits mainly pastoral, the main burthen of the report is the questions of rainfall and evaporation, as being those which most immediately affect the most important interests.

Meteorology of Pesaro.—Prof. Luis Guidi has commenced with the current year the issue of a series of monthly sheets similar to those which formerly appeared in the *Meteorologia Italiana*, showing for his observatory the march of the various elements of meteorology and terrestrial magnetism. He complains of the delay in the issue of the *Bullettino Decadico*, and consequently announces his intention of issuing these graphical results for his own station, so as to ensure their appearance at an earlier date.

Meteorology of Denmark.—Capt. Hoffmeyer has just published Part I. of his *Aarbog* for 1875, containing the results for the stations situated in Denmark itself, with three charts showing the positions of his stations for general observations, for rain and for wind, respectively. The detailed observations, on the international form, are given for eight stations for three observations daily, and the records for Vandrup are discussed from bihourly observations. The report also contains some valuable information on the weather of the year 1875, on the climatology of the kingdom, and on the distribution of rain and wind.

Agricultural Meteorology in France.—M. Le Verrier has given in the *Bulletin* of the Association Scientifique for May 21 and July 9 an account of the plan he has devised for the issue of weather-warnings from the Paris Observatory to the various departments of France. The broad features of the plan are as follows:—Departmental commissions are to be nominated by the Préfets, some members of which are to be specially charged with the duty of receiving the telegrams, and applying the information to the best advantage for the district. Public barometers are to be provided and erected. The telegrams will convey to the district the information required to draw large weather-charts, and curves of the march of the most important phenomena. The chief points to which attention will be in the first instance directed will be the advance of rain over the country, and the motion of thunderstorms and hail-storms. We can only hope that M. Le Verrier will be fortunate enough to secure capable and continued co-operation on the part of the Departmental Commissions. If the heavy responsibility which must necessarily fall on them be intelligently discharged we may hope for great results from this bold venture in practical meteorology.

The Storm of March 12.—M. Ernest Quetelet has laid before the Academy of Brussels a brief account of this storm, which was so remarkable in its behaviour in this country, while in Belgium its fury exceeded anything which had been experienced since the establishment of the observatory. In such a small country as Belgium it is naturally impossible to attempt to follow the march of the phenomenon.

Monthly Weather Summaries for Western Europe.—The last number of the *Annales der Hydrographie*, which are published monthly in Berlin, contains the first instalment of a projected account of the weather of North-west Europe, in the shape of a summary of the weather for March. The paper has been prepared by Dr. Wladimir Köppen, who left his situation at St. Petersburg more than a year ago to take the superintendence of the newly-organised Deutsche Seewarte at Hamburg, as regards its weather telegraphy. At the same time M. Harold Tarry, formerly secretary of the Société Météorologique in Paris

has commenced in *Les Mondes* a similar serial discussion, which, however, extends further to the southward (embracing Algeria) than it is possible for the German discussion to reach. Moreover, this paper is apparently to be illustrated regularly by monthly charts of storm-tracks. We may well wish every success to both these spirited and useful undertakings.

Contributions to the Meteorology of the United States.—Prof. Loomis, whose former papers have frequently been noticed in our columns, has published in Silliman's *Journal* for July the fifth part of his "Results from an Examination of the United States' Signal Service Observations." This paper is even more fragmentary than its predecessors, and the most important section of it is a discussion of the severe cold of December, 1872, with some remarks on the formation of areas of high pressure and low temperature in connexion with the resistance of districts of low barometrical readings. He finds that the former are principally generated on the south-east side of an area of depression; for the United States he gives the distance between the two centres as about 1,200 miles, and the bearing of the cold area from the warm one a little south of east. The paper concludes with a discussion of the paths and rates of motion of West India hurricanes, and it is not a little tantalising to find that all the reasoning and conclusions are deferred to a later communication.

The Diatheroscope.—Prof. Luvini, of Turin, has sent to the Scientific Exhibition at South Kensington an instrument of a totally novel principle for measuring atmospheric refraction. Its construction is as follows. If we cover half of a lens the image produced by it will only differ in brightness from that formed by the uncovered lens. Moreover, if we take two lenses of equal focal length, and place them at a distance from each other equal to the sum of their focal lengths, the rays emerging from the second will have the same degree of convergence as those entering the first—i.e., the object looked at will appear in its natural size and position. Any agency—such as irregular refraction of the atmosphere—which alters the path of the light from the object to the system of lenses will alter the position of the image formed. If now we have a telescope of such a size that the lenses of the diatheroscope cover half the aperture of its object-glass, we can form two images of the distant object, one as shown through the diatheroscope, the other as shown beside it; this latter image will be formed by the rays coming directly from the object to the telescope. If the telescope is astronomical, the latter image will be reversed, while that transmitted through the diatheroscope will be in its natural position. The distance between these two images will depend on the refraction of the atmosphere, and so the instrument may be used to measure that refraction. Prof. Luvini proposes that four of his instruments should be placed at each observatory, directed to the four cardinal points, and that, by their means, observations should be taken at regular intervals of the condition of atmospherical refraction all round the observatory; he thinks that by this method information of coming changes of weather can be obtained earlier than by the means now at the disposal of meteorologists. The original papers are in the *Atti dell' Acad. delle Scienze di Torino*, 1873-4.

A New Hygrometer.—Prof. Klinkerfues, of Göttingen, has sent to the Exhibition several specimens of his new hygrometer, in which he applies the principle of bifilar suspension employed by Gauss for the measurement of magnetic intensity. The instrument is described in a special pamphlet, *Theory of the Bifilar Hygrometer with Equal Divisions*, published by Peppmüller, in Göttingen. The means of suspension are human hairs, and the instrument is said to give not only the dew-point but the relative humidity. If the arrangement proves to be satisfactory it will be a great boon to observers.

The Origin of the Gulf Stream.—It is rarely that we have to notice anything coming from Brazil, but Lieutenant da Graça, of the Brazilian Navy, has lately published a pamphlet with his ideas as to the causes of the Gulf Stream, which differ as widely from those of Mr. Croll as from those of Dr. Carpenter, not to mention Captain Digby Murray, of the Board of Trade, the latest aspirant to the honour of breaking a lance in the long-fought field. Señor da Graça goes to the root of the matter by boldly asserting that the heat of the water is derived from submarine thermal springs; but, as he has no soundings to prove his facts, we may safely leave him to the tender mercies of the disputants we have named.

GEOLOGY.

STUDENTS of Vertebrate Palaeontology will welcome the appearance of Prof. Owen's fine quarto Catalogue describing the British Museum Collection of Fossil Reptilia from South Africa. It was in 1838 that fossils of this kind were first found in Cape Colony by Mr. A. G. Bain, the discoverer of *Diacyonodon*, and so singular were the modifications of reptilian structure which they exhibited that the discovery of additional specimens has always been matter of interest. Year by year the British Museum has been growing richer in these fossils by donations from various sources, especially from Dr. Atherstone; while the study of their structure and affinities must be reckoned among the most fruitful of Prof. Owen's palaeontological labours. In the present catalogue the specimens are carefully described, with copious explanatory remarks, and the descriptions illustrated by seventy lithographic plates, admirably executed by Mr. C. L. Griesbach, who has himself travelled as a geologist in South Africa. It is evident from the nature and mode of occurrence of the fossils that the reptiles here figured must have lived near a vast body of fresh-water which occupied an extensive tract now raised into mountain ranges of considerable altitude, such as that of the Drakensberg, upwards of eleven thousand feet high. Moreover the chief lake-basins must have existed for vast periods, as testified by the great thickness of the lacustrine deposits in which the fossils are embedded; thus the Stormberg beds are not less than eighteen hundred feet in thickness. Yet throughout these strata there has never been found a single cycad or other plant characteristic of Jurassic rocks; and the lacustrine beds, with their enclosed reptilian remains, are, therefore, probably of Triassic, certainly of pre-Liassic age. Prof. Owen's noble catalogue places within the student's reach great facilities for studying this interesting group of organic remains.

It has long been known to Indian geologists that there exists in the province of Sind a fine series of Tertiary deposits, and, indeed, the nummulitic fossils figured by MM. d'Archiac and Haime were mostly obtained from the rocks of this province. Mr. W. T. Blanford, with Mr. Fedden, has defined the succession of beds, and made out the following classification in descending order: the *Manchar*, or Sevalik beds, of Pliocene age; the *Gaj*, or supra-nummulitic rocks, of the Miocene period; the *Nari*, or upper nummulitic deposits, either Lower Miocene or Upper Eocene; the *Khirthar*, or lower nummulitic deposits, of Eocene date; and the *Ranikot*, or infra-nummulitic rocks. The new names are all taken from well-known localities in Sind. Mr. Blanford's memoir will be found in the last part of the *Records of the Geological Survey of India*.

THE last contribution to the *Memoirs of the Indian Survey* is a valuable report by Mr. A. B. Wynne on the "Trans-Indus Salt Region in the Kohat District." The rock-salt is among the largest exposed deposits of this mineral in the world, and some of the workings are known to date back as far as 1650, while others appear to

have been wrought from time immemorial. In geological age the salt is probably contemporaneous with the basal part of the Subáthum nummulitic series. An excellent geological map, chromo-lithographed, accompanies Mr. Wynne's report, to which is also appended an essay on the economic application of this salt region, contributed by Dr. Warth.

WHILE referring to the Geological Survey of India we may remark that Dr. Oldham is at present in this country, having, we believe, resigned the directorship. It is rumoured that he will probably be succeeded by Mr. Medlicott.

IN the last *Bulletin* issued by the United States Survey of the Western Territories a notable feature is introduced in the shape of pictorial sections, which have the double advantage of imparting geological information while they present a panoramic view of the scenery along some of the more important rivers. Dr. Hayden contributes some notes accompanying the sections and describing the structure of certain parts of Montana. This *Bulletin* also includes a valuable hypsometric map of the United States. The contour-curves are drawn approximately at intervals of a thousand feet, and strikingly show the physical features of the States, especially in the west. A descriptive note, by Mr. Gannett, accompanies the map. We should like to see such a contoured map of the States produced on a much larger scale.

UNDER the title of *Lethaea Palaeozoica* an atlas containing sixty-two plates of characteristic palaeozoic fossils has just been published by Prof. F. Roemer, of Breslau. The plates will be accompanied by a volume of text, but this will probably not be ready until next spring. The atlas may be regarded as the first part of a new edition—the fourth—of Bronn's well-known *Lethaea Geognostica*. The lithographs are admirably executed, and remind us of Mr. Baily's *Figures of Characteristic Fossils*, but the work is on a larger scale and extends to Continental species, though a large proportion of the figures are taken from British sources. Even without the letter-press the figures will be valuable to the palaeontological student, who may turn to them with the assurance that they have been judiciously selected as representing typical specimens, and that the characters of the originals are here faithfully rendered.

ATTENTION has been lately directed to the Adalbert shaft of the silver-lead mines at Příbram, in Bohemia, which in the course of last year attained to the extraordinary depth of one thousand metres. The foot-wall of the Adalbert lode is associated with "greenstone" rocks, which have been carefully studied by Herr K. Vrba of Vienna. He shows that these rocks are diabase, and recognises two varieties: the one a fine-grained rock which is a *quartz-diabase*, and the other a compact aphanitic variety described as a *quartz-diabase-aphanite*.

A COLLECTION of specimens of Vesuvian lavas presented by the University of Naples to Trinity College, Dublin, has formed the subject of an elaborate memoir by Professors Haughton and Hull, published in the *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy*. The specimens represent successive lava-flows from 1631 to 1868, and as they were collected by Prof. Guiscardi, of Naples, there can be no question about their authenticity. The specimens were analysed by Mr. W. Early, and microscopically examined by Prof. Hull; and from their data Prof. Haughton has calculated the respective proportions of mineral-constituents in the lavas.

It is now ten years since the late Colonel George Greenwood published the second edition of his *Rain and Rivers* (Longmans). Up to the time of his death, last November, he continued to collect materials for the development of this work, and with these materials the third edition has

been recently issued by his nephew, Mr. C. W. Greenwood. The volume is thicker than the last by about ten pages, and includes additional facts and arguments tending to strengthen the author's well-known views on sub-aërial denudation. Thus in explaining the formation of the Parallel Roads of Glen Roy, he refers to the terraces of the Fraser River, as described by Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle. While most of the additional matter has been judiciously introduced, we cannot help thinking that some of the new paragraphs might have been advantageously suppressed; such, for example, as the unqualified assertion on p. 221 that "some of these days we shall be startled by the imprint of 'Man Friday's' foot in Cambrian sandstone."

FINE ART.

Marsden's Numismata Orientalia. A New Edition. Part II. Coins of the Urtuki Turkumans, by Stanley Lane Poole. (London: Trübner & Co., 1876.)

THE spread of an interest in Oriental numismatics, of which the above work—itsself only part of a greater work—is a proof, is a very pleasing fact to the numismatic and antiquarian mind. The series of Greece and Rome have for two centuries been the objects of the careful investigation of antiquaries; the coinages of the Middle Ages and of modern times in Europe have of later years been diligently collected and described. Now and then a new coin may be discovered, an English John may make its appearance, or a series hitherto mixed up may be disentangled, affording the chance of enriching the English series with a Richard I., though not in his own name; and in the Continental series the like takes place. But, as a rule, the old paths are well trodden; and collectors at home and abroad, yearning for the excitement of novelty, have been compelled to devote themselves to tradesmen's tokens, guild marks, jetons, toll-tickets, and the like poor relations of the great numismatic series of the West; glad, if after long searches, a trace of a possible Perkin Warbeck may be found on a jeton of Tournai.

Meanwhile, Oriental matters are too little cared for among us. Germany, which does not possess a foot of land outside the Vaterland, counts its Oriental scholars by dozens, while England, whose sons hold India for her crown, is too often compelled to procure the services of foreigners to do in her colleges in England and India the work which Englishmen by their position in the world ought to do. And not only are Eastern history and languages neglected, but as a consequence Oriental numismatics—so valuable a handmaid of Oriental history—is neglected also.

The points of necessary contact of Christian and Muhammedan numismatics to the historical collector are not few. The early califs imitate the coins of Constantinople; the coins of Cordova are imitated by the Christian kings of Spain; our own Offa's name is found on a Cufic gold coin; the Christian princes of Southern Italy copy the coins of the princes of Africa; the Muhammedan princes of Asia Minor those of the kings of Naples; the grand dukes of Moscow acknowledge the supremacy of the Khans of the Golden Hords by placing their names on their coins; and it is only lately that the

coinages of the Mogul emperors have ceased to be continued by their English successor. The doings of Omar, Saladin, Muhammed of Ghazni, Muhammed II. of Constantinople; the splendours of Harûn, Abderrahman III. and Akbar; the architectural taste of the kings of Granada; the adventures of Baber, Nadir Shah, and Abd-el-Kader; the ferocity of Tip-poo Sahib—all give an interest to their coins which will be felt by the student of history, who is set above all merely local and national feeling. The pleasure which we experience in beholding the very things that attach themselves to great historic names and events, the recovery of Nineveh, Troy, Olympia, Pompeii, belongs also to the study of coins; for of these we know that some must be, and any may be, almost personal relics of the sovereigns whose names they bear.

How near, then, are we brought by these little, but indestructible, monuments to the leaders in that Eastern world, once so great and splendid, now so decayed and crumbling! Out of the great number of brilliant and powerful dynasties which ruled over the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Europe, there remain now but Morocco, Turkey, and Persia, with a few insignificant names besides. One by one they fell a prey to younger and less enervated races, and those that still linger seem likely soon to leave only their names behind for the study of historians. Would it not be well for the coin-collector in search of novelty and interest to undertake the study of numismatic monuments derived from the dynasties of Damascus, Cordova, Bagdad, Ispahan, and Dehli, and the other smaller and more evanescent ones of other places, where he still has the chance of discovering a prince, or even perchance a dynasty, hitherto unknown to numismatics? It is true that all Oriental princes are not of the highest historic fame; but who knows much of the many princes of Europe, whose coins are yet much sought after, and at high prices? The Visigoth kings of Spain, the early kings of France, the kings of the Heptarchy, are names and dates, and little more.

The horror which true Muhammedans feel at representations of the human frame makes them restrict the ornamentation of their coins, as a rule, to such as can be caused by the artistic arrangement of inscriptions; but many coins of our early monarchs and those of the French series only bear inscriptions; and when we find the sovereign's head on a Mercian or Merovingian coin, it will scarcely compare, even in the eyes of its possessor, with the portrait of a Seleucidan monarch or the head on a Syracusan medallion.

The real difficulty in the pursuit of Oriental coins is the language. That, however, can be, to a very great extent, overcome by the help of the *Lettres sur les Eléments de la Numismatique musulmane* of M. F. Soret; the religious texts so frequently recurring as types are soon recognised, and the historical part of the inscriptions may in consequence be easily disentangled from the remainder.

Mr. S. L. Poole, whose labours in Oriental numismatics are already so well known and appreciated, has with his usual care and

conscientiousness described the coins of the Ortokite princes of Syria and Mesopotamia. With the national collection and that of the late Colonel Guthrie easily accessible, he has been able to work out this peculiar series with great fullness and exactness. In his introduction he traces the history of the 200 years during which the descendants of Urtuk bore sway. The most interesting part is the share taken by the princes of this dynasty in the warfare waged by the Crescent against the Cross between the first and the second crusades. As usual in Oriental dynasties, the first one or two members of this family are conspicuous by their talents and their deeds; after their brilliant exploits for twenty years their successors for the remainder of the duration of the dynasty furnish the historian only with matter of more local interest; we hear of family quarrels, and at last the Ayubite sovereigns of Egypt and Syria annexed what remained of their dominions.

This series is the more interesting from the very curious mixture of pictorial types which are made to figure upon it. Few are the Muhammedan dynasties and sovereigns who dared in opposition to the popular ideas to ornament their coins with images. The Seljûk dynasty has the most artistic of all these representations—namely, the Lion and the Sun, adopted by the Shah of Persia as the badge of his order. This is in very fair work, and contrasts very favourably with the contemporary coins of Henry III. of England. The Atâbegs of Irak adorned their coins with portraits and figures, but the Ortokite dynasty seems to have taken a delight in putting on their coins representations of a most heterogeneous character. Any chance coin of earlier date was used to furnish an obverse. Portraits of Seleucidan and Sassanian kings, and of early Roman emperors, portraits and types of Christian Rome, together with many peculiar types from unascertained sources, combine to give to this series a fantastic appearance, which is a relief to the monotony of the pure Muhammedan types.

The great beauty of the autotype plates of this work almost relieves the student from the necessity of studying the coins themselves. The two other plates are not Marsden's, but only copies of the coins on Marsden's plates which belong to this dynasty, seven having been omitted out of twenty-seven. Marsden's plates were copper-plate; the new ones are lithographed. Although good copies, they are painfully inferior to the autotype plates. In these latter Mr. Poole has given representations of fine coins, of which only bad specimens are given in Marsden. It is to be regretted, since Marsden's text and Marsden's name have disappeared, that his plates have not also been wholly abandoned; and the more so as all the coins worth figuring in the lithographs exist at the British Museum, and so could also have been autotyped. Could not this be remedied even now, in order that Mr. Poole's good and careful work may not be marred by this mixture of good and bad plates? W. G. SEARLE.

ART TREASURES COLLECTION OF NORTH WALES
AND THE BORDER COUNTIES AT
WREXHAM, 1876.

FROM its convenience of access to the wealthiest counties of North Wales, and those which share with their border the boast of the oldest families and ancestral houses, reason would that Wrexham should succeed in furnishing for any local loan collection an exceptionally rich array of art-treasures. A faint notion of this might have been formed from the extemporised Museum of the Cambrian Archaeological Society at Wrexham in 1874; but the merit of the conception and execution of the present far completer design belongs entirely to Major Cornwallis West, the Lord Lieutenant of Denbighshire, and his able, experienced, and obliging colleague, Mr. Chaffers. To be ignorant of the latter would be to ignore the Kensington Museum, as well as to betray an ignorance of ceramic art to which few in this day would have the courage to plead guilty. On Saturday, July 22, a handsome building, on solid foundations and with a superstructure partly of wood, partly of corrugated iron, was inaugurated at Wrexham in due form by the Duke of Westminster, after an address by Major Cornwallis West on behalf of the Executive Committee, and before a supplementary concert of vocal and instrumental music. Space forbids our dilating on this programme, except to commend the helpful, matter-of-fact address in which Major West set forth the *raison d'être* of the undertaking, and the confidence and support it had elicited. And we are compelled for the same reason to overlook the appropriate remarks in which the Duke of Westminster bade the exhibition "good speed," and drew attention to the fertility of the surrounding country in traditions of artists, and treasuring and fosterage of art. He could not be silent touching two indigenous artists—our famous early landscape-painter, Richard Wilson, here represented in the region of his life, death, and (what was more for his genius, and for the credit of his birth-region) his encouragement; or another and later son of the soil, Downing, an A.R.A., who was born at Wrexham, and died too young for his fame, at his birthplace, in 1824. He was precluded by the exigence of relentless time and space from enumerating how many pictures of rare merit and local interest have been collected from the galleries of local contributors, the Duke himself setting the fashion with choice portraits of his ancestry, and gracefully finishing his boon with those three charming portraits of his daughters, by Millais. It gives a home-like character to the exhibition to note in the entrance-court the portraits of the daughters of the chief patron (under the Queen) of the undertaking, and the very beautiful likeness of Mrs. Cornwallis West, the wife of the Chairman of the Executive Committee, by an Italian artist. In the water-colour compartments there are other portraits of the same lady, as well as one on porcelain, which will be centres of attraction for the next three months.

A rapid glance at the entrance and central art gallery, with examples of the German, Dutch, and Flemish schools to the right, from the orchestra (which, by the way, has a splendid organ of Gray and Davison), and pictures of deceased English masters to the left, ought to satisfy the most critical that neither pains nor connoisseurship have been spared to make the selections, whether of ancient or modern specimens, *sui generis*—yes, and more than this, illustrative of local worthies, local traditions, and interests. Here we have, in a painting by Opie, *Sir Lloyd Kenyon*, Master of the Rolls, as well as others of himself and that pleasant-looking, piquant wife who was his first hostage to unexpected fortune, by Romney. We doubt all the same whether the best example of Opie is not *Youth and Age* in the entrance hall. *Richard Heber*, at thirteen years of age, is a picture by Copley of rare and local interest, singularly attractive as a portrait; Pennant, the antiquarian and naturalist of North

Wales (for he was far more than a mere tourist and chronicler), is represented by Gainsborough, and not far from him are some absolutely bewitching portraits by the same master. This, be it said, is a spot of the exhibition to recur to. Nearly opposite, local claims and perhaps foreign masters have caused *Catherine of Berens*, the wife of four husbands, and mother of Wales, to be located, as well as Cornelius Janssen's fine picture of *Lord Keeper Williams*. By the same hand is a very charming picture of *Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia*, and another of a Burgher's wife. To revert to local associations, and examples withal of early landscape, we find Wilson well represented, in ample as well as limited canvas, on the left of the orchestra. His landscapes reflect—besides two large paintings of Llangollen and its bridge—his native haunts; and his portrait by himself (lent by Colonel Cooke) bespeaks his inspiration and the *genius loci*.

Among less local portraits the eye is attracted to the Reynolds's; *Lady Betty Forster*, a new treasure-trove from the Wynn Ellis collection; the *Duchess of Westminster*, by Gainsborough; "*Serena*" (reading), with another perfect Romney above her, to say nothing of a *Countess of Derby* by the same master. We commend these to careful study. By some chance one or two Vandykes have slipped to the same side, though Mr. Gladstone's loan of *Sir Kenelm Digby*, by the same master, is rightly on the other. Several beautiful Lelys adorn the collection, and the Hampton Court beauties repeat themselves in miniature—by which hangs a tale, as they were painted to order from the originals at Hampton Court by Murphy, painter to the Princess Charlotte, repudiated by her, and bought by Sir Gerard Noel, from whom they passed by purchase to the present owner. On one side or other will be met paintings old and new, familiar and unfamiliar: Turner's *Battle of the Nile*; one or two familiar-looking Constables; two characteristic oval pieces of Angelica Kauffman, a Gerard Dow (*The Toper*), a Wouvermans, a Cuyp, to say nothing of Ostade, Snyders, and their schools and styles. Before a reluctant adieu to the paintings and portraits (for on the water-colours by David Cox, D. G. Rossetti, Madox-Browne, and Burne Jones, we have no time to touch), we claim a word for Lady Betty Forster's draperies: "a cream-coloured dress, grey hat, blue ribbons, and feathers!" With such a setting the inimitable pink-and-white is perfect. We confess to a kindred feeling with regard to the grey hat and grey and red feathers, with light blue sash around an indigo dress, in the much-noticed portrait of Mrs. Cornwallis West.

Almost inevitably, as was our fate, an early visitor to the Wrexham Art Treasures would find the officials in the agonies of ticketing and labelling, and in vexed and vexatious expectancy of the catalogues every train was to bring forth from South Kensington. Without these, for the most part, we could do but scant justice to a memorable effort. The pictures were least dependent on catalogues: but it would be blindness, as well as defect of generosity to the obliging and courteous promoters, if we did not note, in addition to these, a few of the precious treasures in the glass cases on either side of the chairs below the orchestra in the Art Gallery. Two such cases enshrine for the present a collection of Wedgwood's Jasper ware, so exquisite that no potter of the Etruria of to-day could approximate the secret of its beauty. The owner and lender is Mr. Felix Joseph. Hard by them and next the orchestra on the right are two "beautiful Limoges enamel oval Plateaux of the sixteenth century" (21 in. by 16 in.), one representing the drowning of Pharaoh and his host with Moses the central figure, surrounded by a rich bordering of grotesque animals, "rich blue ground and vivid colouring with paillettes;" the other representing Apollo and the Muses on Mount Helicon, in a similar bordering, and a tablet with the artist's name, Susanne Court.

These splendid enamels are lent by Mrs. J. Scott Banks, and there is nothing finer in the whole exhibition, though Mr. J. F. Hutton's Limoges enamels and one or two others vindicate a title to be set near them. A similar eye-service is afforded by some of the carvings in "ivory and wood;" by the bronzes, metal work, and especially the pottery and porcelain. "Plate," "gems," and "miniatures," too, are the simple heads of three of the most precious collections of this temporarily accumulated treasure, upon which, catalogue in hand, the art-visitor will have a feast in store. It is only fair to all parties to add that it is as yet early days to inspect this *recherché* collection—while the pictures are being ticketed, and the process of labelling majolica, bronze, porcelain, or cameo has scarcely commenced. But with the energy of the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and the enthusiasm and experience of Mr. Chaffers, it is easy to predict that in another fortnight all will have settled itself into form and shape—in which event there should be no tourist in North Wales during the autumn who does not tarry at Wrexham; and no stay-at-home who does not break through his rule to view an assemblage of treasures that does the highest credit to the taste and cultivation of the North Wales border.

J. DAVIES.

THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION OF 1878.

I HAVE hitherto refrained from any mention of the Exhibition of 1878, because until now the plan was prospective and in the stage of discussion. In principle, the idea was generally accepted some time ago, but with regard to the mode of carrying it out the projects were various. To avoid saying a thing one day and contradicting the next, I waited for the passing of the Bill in the Chamber of Deputies; this took place a week or two since, and I am now in a position to be able to analyse the report which was read and officially adopted, and add my own reflections thereon. "It is good for France," said M. Journauld, "after misfortunes unparalleled in her history to assert her vitality and her wealth. All other nations understand the feeling, and will hasten to respond. We may confidently state that unanimous signs of international sympathy have been shown." May 1, 1878, is the date fixed for the opening by the commissioners. They know that the time is short, and that great efforts are necessary in order to be ready by the appointed day. There is no doubt the work ought to have been begun as soon as public opinion, apart from Government, had decided that the thing was to be. But that would not have been legal. The Municipal Council first, then the Bureaux of the Chamber had to be consulted. And thus two precious months were lost by the lengthiness which distinguishes the regular course of public business. M. Viollet-le-Duc, one of the most enlightened promoters of the scheme, does not despair, but he did not conceal from the commissioners how short the time is if they hope to avoid those delays which have occurred in the case of previous exhibitions: lists have to be drawn up, lists of staff-officers and of workers; the proposals of the contractors have to be received, and definite orders forwarded to the great factories where the various portions of the vast *matériel* required are to be executed. Should bad winters be followed by late springs, there would be ground for great uneasiness. But the fact, on the other hand, must be taken into account that constructive implements generally, as well as all scientific processes, are more perfect than they were in 1867, the present proof of which is seen in the Exhibition of Philadelphia. The result, therefore, is assured, provided the orders be sent out at once, and committees appointed to arrange the intellectual programmes side by side with the material works. The site fixed upon is the Champ de Mars, which is placing the exhibition

almost in the heart of Paris. The Seine is already covered with steamboats, and, in addition to the tramways which already exist, new railways are to be laid down, which will increase the means of transport a hundredfold.

To the 420,000 mètres of the Champ de Mars the 150,000 of the Trocadéro, on the other side of the Seine, and bridges to connect them, are to be added. The Industrial section will be in the Champ de Mars, in a glass building to cover 243,000 mètres of ground. The Fine Art and Science sections are to occupy the Trocadéro. A monumental pavilion, flanked by two semicircular galleries, and from the base of which a large cascade is to flow, is to be erected on the top of the hill. The spot commands a fine view over the largest part of Paris—that which, with its splendid buildings, presents such a graceful and varied outline when seen from a distance. Here the *fêtes* will be held for which France is so famous. Here will be the galleries which are to be devoted to the history of labour in every age and among every people. They are to be so built as to outlast the present occasion, with a view to their becoming ultimately the property of the City of Paris and being turned into permanent museums. For years past, on all sides and in every possible way, I have been urging the foundation of a museum that should answer to your South Kensington Museum: I now hope that at last my dream is about to be realised.

Possibly some of the buildings in the Champ de Mars—about a third—will also be left standing. I dwell on these talked-of plans because they show that the ideas we have been zealously and patiently advocating for so long are beginning to make their way into the class who elected the new Chamber—the new social strata, that is to say. These new strata of society know well where, as regards the elements of a sound artistic, scientific, and professional education, their deficiencies lie, and their representatives, by at once and without discussion accepting this plan, which puts the artists, the scholars, the workmen of all time in direct communication with each other, have just given marked proof of a high degree of intelligence. But the problem lies not so much in the attempts at a permanent exhibition of which the Commissioners thus hold out hopes, as in the formation of extensive ethnographical museums, which teach by the eye what libraries are powerless to teach with printed paper, and professors by word of mouth.

The costs are estimated at 35,000,000 of francs, and the probable receipts at 19,000,000. The City, which will benefit in every sense by this great fair, will defray six of the thirty-five. The State takes the working of the whole thing into its own hands, which is an official guarantee that the hospitality offered to strangers will be properly dispensed, and worthy both of France and of her guests.

I on my own account would add that this exhibition should be worthy of the new political order of things which reigns in France, and that it should wipe out all the trivial memories of the last exhibition organised by the Imperial régime. To that end the committees whose business it will be to organise the different classes should consist of active young men, men who are devoted to the greatness of their country and the greatness of science. I shall speak of the plans in connexion with the Fine Art Department on another occasion. I think the ACADEMY ought to make itself known among us by its display of zeal in enabling us to know, feel, and appreciate the original and subtle art of England.

■ In the meantime, until these plans shall have been more fully matured, I may go on to tell you that ethnography is to occupy an important place in the galleries devoted to the history of labour. To study man both in his past and present; to study his qualities in their various modifications, as produced by the twofold influence of his social relations with his fellow-men and the centres in which

he lived; to reconstruct the history of humanity with the help of grammar and philology; to take as careful note of a costume as of a poem, of an article of faith as of a conformation of the jaw—all this is throwing light into the well where truth lies concealed. Prejudices vanish, and improvements suggest themselves. And, besides other advantages that will result from them, these anthropological galleries will, no doubt, if well organised—furnished, that is to say, with prehistoric skulls, with lay figures, clothed, armed, and painted from head to foot, to represent the Kaffir on his burning sands, the Japanese in his island home, the Oxford don in his study, the Esquimaux in his hut—these galleries will, I say, no doubt be one of the most instructive and most frequented parts of the exhibition.

Foreign Governments ought without hesitation to vote large sums for the laying out of gardens and the sending over workmen representative of their most skilled trades, those requiring imagination and delicate workmanship combined. The common people readily take in and assimilate instruction of this kind, and sights of this nature make a deep and lasting impression on the brain of a child. The large fairs which in former days were the centres of wandering trade were a source of wealth to the sellers of books. The universal exhibitions of our own day cannot fail to be of the greatest service to geography, history, and practical science. They give mankind a material idea of the unity of the human race. Now is the time for the philosopher to decide whether progress be not merely a Utopian idea, and whether man be not the happier for becoming more universal.

PH. BURT.

ART SALES.

THE collection of pictures and water-colour drawings formed by the late Mr. W. A. Joyce was sold at Messrs. Christie's a few days ago, and was among the last of the sales of the season, as to the general character of which we may make a remark or two, after briefly chronicling the prices fetched by Mr. Joyce's pictures. These were:—Water-colour Drawing: W. Hunt, *All Fours*, 106*l*. Pictures: A. L. Egg, *Cromwell and his Chaplain*, 168*l*; P. F. Poole, *"A Bit of Fun,"* 157*l*; W. Collins, *The Sale of the Pet Lamb*, 325*l*; T. S. Cooper, *A Landscape, with Cattle*, 110*l*; F. Goodall, *The Woodman's Return*, 304*l*; J. Linnell, sen., *A Running Stream, with Figures Fishing*, 430*l*; J. Phillip, *Drawing for the Militia*, 194*l*; C. Stanfield, *Roveredo*, 399*l*; T. Creswick and R. Ansdell, England, 735*l*.

THE art-sale season, which began without the announcement or expectation of many sales of importance, has been after all a busy and notable one. Modern art—the work, at all events, of contemporaries—has hardly, indeed, held its own. Some of it has fetched sensational prices, but much of it, that is not undeniably of the first quality, has had to suffer marked abatement. Nor is it, perhaps, very probable that the scale of payment for contemporary art into which over-prosperous times had allowed us to slide will be quite fully resumed when the financial dulness of the moment shall be over. Owing to this financial dulness, some old masters' work in painting has not attained the accustomed prices when presented in auction-rooms. But this has been but occasional: as a whole, the supreme and unquestioned work of the real masters of past times has not suffered in money value; nor can it be likely to suffer hereafter, for it appeals to the cultivated and wealthy all over the world, and is independent of disturbance in any single community. The great works in engraving—those of Rembrandt especially—have shown no tendency to lose value. On the contrary, they have gained it, and for the reason before hinted at, that may apply to all first-rate work by old and admitted masters—a Rembrandt etching is sought after and wanted in Paris as much as in London, and there is as good a market

for it in Amsterdam, in Frankfurt, and in Vienna. Thus it is that at a time of great commercial depression the Sir Abraham Hume collection of Rembrandts, offered in London, realised prices which seemed only to betoken great commercial prosperity—the fact being that commercial depression in London alone was powerless to affect the value of things which are in demand in all the centres of civilisation. First in point of time, though by no means in point of importance, was the sale by Messrs. Christie, in the month of February, of the pictures belonging to Mr. Armstrong and to the Messrs. Collie: the most noticeable fact in the Armstrong sale being the sale of a really great *tour de force* by Mr. Millais—the portraits of the Miss Armstrongs—for a sum much below what was said to have been given for it. Very important and excellent examples of Mr. E. Long may be remembered as having been in the possession of the Messrs. Collie. The next sale of importance was that of a great number of sketches by De Wint, which until the moment of sale had remained in the possession of the family of this exquisite landscape-painter. The Levy Collection next engrossed attention: it was full of wonderful things, but there will always be remembered as its specialities the unexampled array of the works of David Cox (many of which, however, Mr. Levy had possessed for a very short time), the excellent exhibition of the works of our not yet sufficiently appreciated, George Morland, and the pictures by the old Dutch masters, among which were some absolute masterpieces of Jan Steen, Mieris, and Gerard Dow. The Wynn Ellis picture-sales have from widely different causes been the talk of the season. They will be remembered as occasions on which some of the most perfect works by our last-century English painters were followed by the sale of canvases (purporting to be by old masters) such as do not often disfigure the walls of the great auction-rooms in King Street. To these sales succeeded that of the small and most chosen collection known as the Clewer Manor pictures—works of a perfection such as is but seldom to be met with beyond the most treasured ornaments of our public galleries. Lastly, of print sales there have been three specially noteworthy—the sale of Sir Abraham Hume's marvellous collection of Rembrandts, mentioned before; the sale of M. Bury's collection, remarkable for quality; and that of Mr. Anderson Rose's, remarkable for size.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Autotype Company (Rathbone Place) have just published a head of the Magdalen after a drawing by Mr. W. Cave Thomas, designed as a companion to the autotype of *Christ Crowned with Thorns*, by the same artist, which some two or three years back obtained well-deserved and widespread acceptance. As examples of drawing carried up to the most elevated standard of the English school, we wish to call attention to these two heads. The observation forces itself upon us that, whereas a rising and highly susceptible school of English criticism is boundless in its admiration of French draughtsmanship—no matter what branch of that school the examples may belong to, or how divergent their aims may be—specimens of such extreme mastery and perfection as those now under consideration, when by an English hand, fail to extort even a passing word of praise. Experts who go into raptures over the productions of the French landscape school decline to notice similar qualities in the work of Anthony or William Davis; and, while pronouncing panegyrics *ex cathedra* upon French drawing, they are blind to the admirable qualities of such native draughtsmen as the late William Dyce, Sir Noel Paton, or Mr. Cave Thomas. Sad and elevated in expression, and faultless in their perfection of modelling, the *Christ Crowned with Thorns* and the *Magdalen* reflect great credit on the publishers also, who thus place within reach

of the ordinary purchaser specimens of a branch of English art but too little to be met with in our exhibitions, and equally suitable for guiding the studies of the amateur or the school-class. In fact we should like to see a series of heads from nature, by the same hand, brought out with a view to assist good drawing. The same company has published other remarkable works by Mr. Thomas—*Christ Lying on the Cross*, and *The Fate of Benefactors*: for our present purpose, however, the two smaller examples serve best by way of illustration.

ANOTHER vast painting by M. Gustave Doré (30 feet by 20) has been lately added to the Doré Gallery 35 New Bond Street: it represents *Christ entering Jerusalem*. Leaving aside the question of its size, this is one of the most ordinary and least interesting pictures in the collection. Indeed, we should say that the subject itself is a very jejune and unrepaying one; though something may be—and already has been—made of it by such an expedient as that of Haydon, who gave the head of Voltaire to a scoffer, and of Wordsworth to a disciple, and concentrated the attention on the incident of a frail and penitent girl in shame and adoration. In M. Doré's picture we have of course the essential points—Christ riding forwards on the ass-colt, the acclaiming multitude strewn and waving palm-branches, disciples and adherents of both sexes and all ages, some signs of antagonism amid so many of welcome, a Pharisee at one end and a Roman soldier at the other. The colour and effect are bright, without much to concentrate or exalt the general impression of these elements of the subject on the eye and mind. It should be said in justice to the painter that the head of Christ himself—that supremely difficult attempt—is, in proportion, fully as successful an achievement as the other heads generally, or the remaining constituents of the picture.

MR. WILLIAM M. ROSSETTI has lately joined the staff of contributors to the new *Encyclopædia Britannica*; revising, and sometimes writing anew, many of the articles on painters and other artists of the Italian and other schools; Canova, Cellini, Cimabue, the Caracci, Claude, Charlet, &c.

MR. J. P. HESLITINE was incidentally mentioned in the last number of the ACADEMY in an art review from Paris, as having "bitten" the plates of the few prints by Frederick Walker issued not long ago. Mr. Heslittine's own etchings, we may here take occasion to say, deserve to be known by a wider public than that which is at present acquainted with them. They are technically sometimes at fault, but they have the great qualities of originality, artistic feeling, and simplicity of truthfulness. Some of them, we believe, remain unpublished, though isolated impressions of these have been seen here and there at exhibitions; but one series was issued about three years ago by Mrs. Nosedá: a limited number were printed, and the plates destroyed, so that probably very few still remain to be sold. These published etchings are all of them truthful and unaffected sketches from nature, as nature presents herself in landscapes among the least celebrated in England. They do not contain a single view such as the tourist goes out for to see, but they render in black and white just that common and everyday landscape of open heath, and rising field, flat coast and sluggish river, which sixty years ago was not unworthy of the art of Crome; and they render it with a dainty simplicity that reminds one of certain of the studies for landscape by Mason and Frederick Walker. Mr. Heslittine is, indeed, one of the most sensitive observers of fact now handling the etching-needle, and the closeness of his observation by no means shuts out poetical feeling; on the contrary, the presence of poetical feeling is sufficiently proved by the charm that, without idealisation, he knows how to bestow on the simple and everyday subjects of his choice. One of his more ambitious

subjects—that known as *Aylmerton, Norfolk*—is one of his least successful; he is not always a master of the effect of distance when that has to be expressed by gradations of tone, but he is quite a master of it when he places his main reliance on design and perspective. This is shown unmistakably in the long but small landscape in which a creek or deep draining ditch runs alongside of a river, which at last flows out sluggishly to sea between low and barren banks, and by some few boats and a yard for boat-building. Not many landscape-etchings are so exquisite as this in design and result. We may mention another, which is of admirably harmonious tone and more obviously poetical effect; it is called *Rundhurst*, and represents a secluded place in the heart of the southern counties, where an old stone gateway stands at the entrance to some little-trodden garden, and the wavering lines of a poplar rise dark against a quiet sky. This is entirely delightful. Mr. Heslittine should be induced to publish some of his still more recent work, the things we know already in Mrs. Nosedá's issue of three years ago having the peculiar and personal qualities so precious in art, and workmanlike ability to boot.

MR. E. BINYON, a painter well known and esteemed in the island of Capri, died there lately of heart disease, having suffered severely after bathing while he was heated. He leaves a wife and three children. The present Royal Academy Exhibition contains a well-sized picture by this artist, capably and carefully painted, *Vesuvius and Naples from Capodimonte*; he had also frequently contributed to the Dudley Gallery.

MR. SHIELDS, an associate of the Water-Colour Society resident for several years past in Manchester, has lately returned to England from a tour in Venice, Florence, and other Italian cities, and is likely to settle in or near London.

IN the Athenian newspaper *"Opa"* of the 2nd ult. will be found a summary of the discoveries at the foot of the Akropolis up to the beginning of last month. The number of inscriptions discovered up to June 25 was eighty—of which forty-eight are of the best period—and the number of fragments of sculpture eighty-two, of which three are thought to belong to the frieze of the Parthenon. On July 1, about forty additional fragments of sculpture and inscriptions were found. Among the most remarkable inscriptions are the following:—A treaty between the Athenians and Arkadians in the archonship of Molon, B.C. 362, containing nineteen lines. A fragment of a dramatic didaskalia; a report of the Commissioners appointed in the archonship of Diokles for the taking down and repairing the Anathekata in the Asklepieion—this inscription alone would prove that the foundation-walls discovered on this site are those of the Asklepieion—a dedication to Asklepios and Hygieia, by Flavius Epiktetos, inscribed on a base on which are sculptured two feet. The dedicatory may have suffered from gout. Several sculptures in relief representing, probably, families or individuals who had been patients in the temple of the god, are described in this report, and two male heads, sculptured in the round, one of which exceeds life-size, and both of which are thought to represent Asklepios. The *Παλαιογραφία* of July 10 states that since the discoveries reported in the *"Opa"* a female head of heroic size has been found on the same site. This is thought by Prof. Rhousopoulos to be possibly from one of the pedimental compositions of the Parthenon. The same journal reports the discovery of a decree dated in the archonship of Lysander, son of Apolexis, relating to the repairs and fitting up of the Asklepieion.

A BUST of the late Dr. Edwin Norris, by Mr. Charles Summers, has just been placed among similar memorials of the "Worthies of Somerset" in the entrance of the Shire Hall, Taunton.

A VERY fair wood-engraving of Mantegna's cartoon of *The Triumph of Julius Caesar*, at

Hampton Court, has been published by the *Architect*. Three compartments have been given in each number from July 15.

It is stated that Earl Spencer has promised to lend some of the principal paintings from his gallery at Althorp for exhibition at the South Kensington Museum. There will be plenty of room for loans of this kind now that so many galleries have been left vacant by the removal of the collection of British masters to the National Gallery.

THE first volume of an important work on the History of Italian Art, entitled *Le Arti del Disegno in Italia, Storia e Critica*, by the distinguished art-critic the Marchese Pietro Estense Selvatico, has just been published by Francesco Vallardi, of Milan.

Two life-size ceremonial portraits of the King and Queen of the Belgians, by the distinguished Belgian painter Louis Gallait, have been on exhibition since July 13 at the Brussels Museum. The king is represented standing with his right hand on the manuscript of his celebrated inaugural discourse of December 17, 1865, in which the words "un roi belge de cœur et d'âme" that have become almost historic in Belgium are distinctly visible. Both likenesses are said to be excellent, and to be free from that stiff mechanical dignity which usually distinguishes works of this sort.

THE project for a school and manufactory of mosaic at Sèvres, mentioned some time ago in the ACADEMY, has by no means been given up. On the contrary, we hear that its organisation is likely soon to be accomplished. M. Gerspach, who was sent last year on a mission to Italy in order to collect as much information as possible with regard to the Italian modes of manufacture, has lately returned, bringing with him a large number of reproductions of ancient mosaics—taken, we believe, by the same process as those at South Kensington—which are now being exhibited at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. It is thought that such reproductions cannot fail to be extremely useful in the education of artists for this kind of work. Beside these, M. Gerspach has collected a number of small vitrified cubes called by the Italians *smalti*, and various other materials, such as marble, agate, different kinds of pebbles and stones, that have been used from the earliest ages in the preparation of mosaic. By the scientific examination of these specimens it is hoped that a more thorough understanding of the nature of the substances required for mosaic will be gained.

THE Dresden *Anzeiger* records the discovery of an unsuspected hoard at the Rathaus of Bautzen. In an old wooden chest, stowed away in one of the upper rooms and supposed to contain merely old documents of no particular value, there has recently been found beneath the papers a number of silver vessels, such as drinking-cups, chalices, spoons, etc., dating from the seventeenth century. It is not known how they came there. The collection has been placed for the present in the town museum.

A STATUE to Thorbecke, the great statesman and patriot to whom Holland chiefly owes her re-constitution in 1830, has recently been set up in Amsterdam. It is by the Dutch sculptor Leenhoff.

THE Munich Cabinet of Prints and Drawings has lately added to its collection a number of water-colour studies of the Court-painter, Leopold Rottmann. They are mostly hunting-sketches and views taken during expeditions with Maximilian II., which afterwards served as studies for a series of water-colour pictures which Rottmann executed for that monarch.

THE distinguished German authoress, the Countess Hahn-Hahn, has recently provoked a most bitter controversy on the subject of religious art by a little pamphlet entitled *Die Kunst in der*

Muttergottes-Kapelle des Domes zu Mainz, which she has published for the small price of 10 pfennige, in order, say her opponents, to give it the utmost possible notoriety. The question turns on the proper position and dimensions of the altar in the Christian Church, and has been discussed with about the same amount of angry feeling as that excited by the erection of the reredos at Exeter.

THE various historical and art collections of the *Kaiserhaus*, or Imperial Burg, at Vienna, are at present undergoing a complete reorganisation. A new system of administration of the Austrian Museum has lately been entered upon, whereby the accumulation of different departments under one director has been to a great extent avoided, and the directors or keepers of each collection left more free to act in the interest of their special department.

THE *Zeitschrift für Bildende Kunst* has nothing worth notice in the way of art this month. Its only etching is a view of the ruined temple of Juno Lucina at Girgenti, by L. Lincke—large, dreary, and monotonous. Josef Durm describes with great detail the Villa Lante near the little town of Bagnaia, and the cloister of Sta. Maria della Quercia, both places very little known to travellers, as they lie aside from the regular route to Rome. The villa, however, is mentioned in Percier and Fontaine's *Choix des plus célèbres maisons de plaisance de Rome et de ses environs*, 1809, and, if it in any way equals its description, is certainly worth a visit from those who have exhausted the more regular show-places around Rome. It was first built in 1477 by Cardinal Sansoni Riario, and was for about a century and a half a favourite residence of the Cardinal-Bishops of Viterbo. Pope Alexander VII. then gave it to a Duke of the Lante family, and it has remained in the possession of that family ever since. It is well preserved and not modernised, although it is occasionally used as a summer residence by its present owners.

THE STAGE.

THERE have been revivals this week, but only of familiar things, and other revivals of things as familiar are promised us. The Strand and the Globe are two theatres at which the programme has been changed. *Paul Pry*, too, has been played for a few evenings at the Gaiety. The often-seen burlesque of the *Field of the Cloth of Gold*—which is by no means the dullest effort of its author—has been reproduced at Mrs. Swanborough's theatre. At the Globe, soon after the departure of Mdle. Beatrice and her company—who are at this moment acting in the provinces—Mr. J. A. Cave, Miss Lynd, Mr. L. Harcourt, and other performers appeared in *Kathleen Mavourneen*. Mr. Cave has often before now, we hear, played the part of Terence O'Moore, but never before a West End audience. The audience at the Globe on Saturday night signified approval of his humours and was right enough in doing so, but a "West End audience" it can hardly be called—it was an audience at a West End theatre, but a "West End audience" (the term is supposed to convey some dignity) cannot be seen within the walls of a theatre in the beginning of August, for the simple reason that it does not exist. Mdle. Beatrice, for instance, when she comes to town, as she often does at the summer's end, comes practically to play to the provincial visitor. The little piece called *Dancing Dolls*, which followed the more important drama on Saturday at the Globe, brought for the first time on to the boards of a regular theatre a Miss Fanny Leslie, from America. We have somewhere seen the statement that she has found much favour at the music halls. That may not be correct, but were it correct it would be less against her than it sounds. A music hall may undoubtedly seem but a poor place to hail

from; yet from such a place more than one noted and meritorious low comedian has emerged on to the London stage. Nor is this to be wondered at, for, as certain of the theatres have chosen to usurp the functions of the music halls, certain of the music halls have done their best to show their patrons comic actors of a talent not destined to be for ever associated with the pipe and the pot and the promenade in which introductions are held to be superfluous.

MR. EDWARD TERRY, who for several years has been amusing the audience at the Strand, amused them for the last time on Saturday, when, previous to starting for a holiday in Switzerland, he bade farewell to his patrons on the afternoon of his benefit. On returning to town, Mr. Terry appears at the Gaiety. At his benefit Mr. Terry delivered some sufficiently funny verses which Mr. Byron had written for him, Mr. Grossmith appeared in an entertainment, Miss Jennie Lee danced a dance, the Strand company played in a popular piece, and Messrs. James, Thorne, Farren and Sugden, and Miss Larkin, Miss Bishop, and Miss Amy Roselle performed the second act of *Our Boys*. The audience was large, and the enthusiasm great.

MISS MARIE LITTON will reappear in the country in August, the *Era* assures us, in company with Mr. and Mrs. Chippendale.

MR. SOTHERN, who has been until lately acting in New York, will reappear in London, in October, it is said. The comic actor's last engagement here came to a somewhat speedy termination.

THE Gaiety Theatre is the next to which *All for Her* is to be transferred. Mr. John Clayton, after his holiday, will appear at that playhouse in a piece which is admitted to be among the most deservedly successful that recent years have given to the stage.

MR. EDGAR BRUCE, it is said, will be the next tenant of the Globe Theatre, whither Miss Jennie Lee, at the end of her absence from town, will return with the drama founded on the Joe of *Bleak House*.

MR. HERMANN VEZIN now plays the parts of Fabien and Louis dei Franchi in the continued performances of the *Corsican Brothers* at the Princess's Theatre, which Mr. John Clayton has left.

MISS NEILSON will go to America in the early autumn.

A ONE-ACT pathetic drama has, it is said, been accepted at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, for Mrs. Bancroft. One is glad of this for more reasons than one. Anything is good which tends to break down the old-fashioned belief that a one-act drama cannot have importance enough to demand the service of a leading actor in its interpretation. And again, the artistic public is beyond question the gainer when Mrs. Bancroft devotes herself to the realisation of a pathetic character. Mrs. Bancroft's popular successes have been gained in comedy, and in comedy of the lightest kind; but the most genuinely noteworthy of the achievements of this artist have been in a piece of which the best part was of unrelieved pathos. Mrs. Bancroft's pathetic acting is of so excellent a kind that it might almost have inspired the familiar exclamation of Croaker in the *Good-natured Man*—"It is a perfect consolation to be miserable with you."

A NEW piece was promised for this week at the Gymnase Theatre—*La Crise de M. Thomassin*, a three-act comedy by M. Vercousin.

MDLE. CROIZETTE, who has been ill, will not make her reappearance at the Français till the beginning of the autumn, it is said.

La Fille de Roland—M. Henri de Bornier's patriotic drama, reviewed in these columns a good deal more than a year ago—has now taken its

place definitely, it may be presumed, in the repertory of the Théâtre Français. It is played occasionally during the present summer season.

THE Paris Vaudeville has at last closed its doors, leaving only eleven theatres open in Paris. And of these, many are just now presenting such worn-out pieces and drawing such scanty audiences, mostly supplied with free admissions, that they can hardly be said to be "open" in the sense in which that word is used in winter of the theatres. The Français, the Palais Royal, and the Variétés are alone, it is said, frequented by audiences numerous enough to justify their continuing the performances.

THE competition for prizes among pupils of the Conservatoire in Paris, which, as we briefly chronicled on Saturday, took place last week, is a very serious affair. The range of buildings devoted to the Conservatoire contains a small private theatre, and this is crowded from nine in the morning till about five in the afternoon on the day of the competition, and crowded not only by friends of the competitors, who are there naturally, but by as many actors and actresses as can gain admission, and by the critics. The jury is composed of some half-dozen men, among whom are always eminent actors and writers. It is very much the fashion among the writers who do not form part of the jury to complain of the system, and to urge that the Conservatoire does not produce good actors. "See!" they say; "these are the best you have to show us this year—are they really actors?" It may be answered that the Conservatoire cannot hope to turn out accomplished actors; it is much if it turns out promising ones, with a certain amount of training now added to their native talent and developing it. But this year the grumblers have been present as usual, and this year it is true that the Conservatoire has not, as far as its women are concerned, produced any one commanding the immediate enthusiasm which was expressed on previous occasions by the assembled company for Mdle. Legault and for Mdle. Samary, the niece of the Brohans. In the department of tragedy there were this time two candidates, neither of whom was adjudged worthy of any prize at all. Last year there had not been a single candidate. And in comedy the appearances have not this year been very brilliant, though a second-class prize has been bestowed on Mdle. Carrière. She is a pupil of Regnier, the best teacher in France since Samson, there is no doubt: as up to a short time ago, when he chose to retire, he was one of the very best actors. Mdle. Carrière had chosen as her test-passage (for the choice of passages is allowed to the candidate) a somewhat easy piece from *Un Mariage sous Louis Quinze*. Mdle. Carrière is pronounced by the best judges to be an excellent pupil; but, as she has been at the Conservatoire a considerable time, and appears now to require only the experience of the stage, she is advised to leave it. Two *premiers accessits* were given to Mdle. Girard and Mdle. Bernage; both of these pupils are extremely young. Among the men it is the good fortune of the jury to have discovered a *jeune premier*: a *rara avis* indeed, not more easily found than a first-rate tenor. Davigny last year obtained a second prize. Since then his progress has been so marked that there is every reason to think that before another twelvemonth is over he will be doing, at the Théâtre Français, something that will be talked about. The success won by him last week at the Conservatoire was obtained in a scene from Diderot—from the *Père de Famille*—the scene in which Saint Albin narrates to his father how it was he fell in love with a poor girl and vowed to marry her. The recital is simple and touching, and we are assured that it was given by the young actor Davigny with excellent sensitiveness and discretion: "sans éclat de voix, sans gestes; on eût dit l'homme même." Before closing our account of

the competition we may mention, as a proof of the usefulness of the Conservatoire well within the London playgoer's knowledge and power of verification, that the actor Marais, who played so excellently the part of the young Russian lover in *Les Danicheff*, came straight to that part from the Conservatoire, and so with no experience of the stage other than the Conservatoire could give him. How well he played the part, we saw at the St. James's Theatre but a few weeks ago.

MUSIC.

WAGNER'S "RING DES NIBELUNGEN."

(Third Article.)

In the *Götterdämmerung* (the "Dusk of the Gods") is presented to us the catastrophe of the great drama which we have followed hitherto. Thus far the curse attached to the ring has proved fatal to all drawn beneath its spell. Fasolt, its first possessor, has fallen by the club of his brother; Siegmund, though only an unconscious instrument in the hands of Wotan, has been slain by Hunding; nay, the god himself has not escaped, for has he not been compelled to order the death of his beloved son, and to banish for ever his favourite daughter? Fafner, who held, and Mime, who coveted, the ring, have met with death by the hand of Siegfried; and we shall now see how the hero himself, though absolutely free from guilt in the matter, is none the less brought under the influence of the curse.

Siegfried, it will be remembered, ends with the scene of the waking of Brünnhilde by the youthful hero, "der das Fürchten nicht kennt." Some time has elapsed since then; the lad has become a man, in the full vigour of his powers, and his fame has spread far and wide. He is still living with Brünnhilde on the "Walkürenfels" where he first found her; and it is here that the action of the *Götterdämmerung* opens. The drama is preceded by a long introductory scene. As the curtain rises, we see the rock of Brünnhilde; it is night, and in front of the cave which forms her abode the three Norns (Fates) are spinning the thread of destiny. In mysterious tones they refer to the past, and predict the future, while they pass the thread from one to another; they foresee the approaching end of the gods, and ask when it will be; but to this they get no answer, for the thread snaps asunder, and affrighted they vanish.

Day dawns, and Siegfried and Brünnhilde, the former in full armour, the latter leading her horse by its bridle, enter from the cavern. He is about to leave her in quest of new adventures, and in a most splendid scene, which is at once a continuation of and a pendant to the final duet of *Siegfried*, the pair bid each other farewell. As a parting love-token, he gives her the fatal ring, of which he little divines the importance: to him it is merely a memento of his victory over Fafner; he knows not the curse attached to it. She gives him in return her horse; he leaves the mountain, and his horn is heard from the valley below.

The great significance and dramatic beauty of this prelude to the drama become apparent as we proceed. The first act commences in the hall of the Gibichungen on the Rhine. Gunther, the son of Gibich, and his sister, Gutrune, live there with their half-brother, Hagen, the son of the Nibelung Alberich. Hagen knows the history of Siegfried and Brünnhilde; he knows also the power of the ring, and is determined to obtain it for himself. This, however, he can only effect by stratagem. He advises Gunther that he should endeavour to obtain Brünnhilde as his wife, and, in reply to questions, says that her dwelling is surrounded by fire, and that only Siegfried, the noblest hero in the world, can win her for him. He suggests that this may easily be effected if they can render Siegfried enamoured of Gutrune, and for this purpose he has a potion, the effect of which will be to make the hero forget

that he had ever seen a woman previously. To Gunther and Gutrune, who know nothing of Siegfried's marriage with Brünnhilde, the plan seems excellent. Siegfried's horn is heard on the Rhine below, and Gutrune retires to put the project into execution. The hero enters, and is warmly received by Gunther and Hagen. After some conversation, Gutrune approaches from her room, and offers Siegfried a draught, in token of welcome; he takes it, and aside pledges the cup to Brünnhilde's love, which, though he suspects it not, he is renouncing for ever. He drinks the fatal draught; all recollection of his bride deserts him, and he is at once struck by the charms of Gutrune, and offers himself as her husband. He asks Gunther whether he is married; Gunther replies that he has fixed his hopes on one whom he cannot obtain, and that only one who breaks through the fire can court Brünnhilde. At this name a blank look comes over Siegfried's countenance: he has entirely forgotten her; but, saying that he fears no fire, he offers to obtain Brünnhilde for Gunther, if the latter will give him his sister as a wife. The bargain is concluded; the two men swear an oath of "blood-brotherhood," and depart for the Walkyr's rock, leaving Hagen to guard the hall. The scene changes to the mountain height where Brünnhilde awaits her lord's return. To her enters hastily Waltraute, one of the Walküren, who comes from Walhalla in deep distress, and tells Brünnhilde of the trouble of the gods. Wotan had returned home one day with his spear broken; a hero had cut it in sunder. He had ordered the noble ones of Walhalla to cut down the "world-ash" from the wood of which his spear was made, and to pile the stem in logs round the castle of the gods. Then in solemn silence he had assembled gods and heroes in the great hall; there they sit motionless, awaiting their approaching end. The Walküren, weeping, surround their father, and Waltraute hears him say to himself, "If she gave the ring back to the Rhine-daughters, gods and the world would be freed from the curse." Then Waltraute hurries to Brünnhilde to implore her to fulfil Wotan's wish; but the latter has found her heaven in Siegfried's love; her sister has brought no message of forgiveness from her father, and she declares that sooner than she will give away the love-token Walhalla shall fall in ruins. Waltraute, with a cry of "Woe to the gods!" hastens away. Evening draws on, and Brünnhilde with delight hears Siegfried's horn below; she hurries to meet him, and he appears—but not in his own form. He has put on the Tarnhelm, which enables him to assume any shape, and he is come in the likeness of Gunther. Brünnhilde warns him back, and holds out the ring which makes her strong against all comers. They wrestle, and he forces the ring from her. Her might is gone; she can resist no longer. Siegfried orders her into the cave, and before following her draws his sword, which he will place between her and himself, as a sign that he has not wronged Gunther.

The second act passes on the banks of the Rhine, in front of the hall of the Gibichungen. It is night, and Hagen, spear in hand, and shield on arm, is sitting asleep at the door. Kneeling in front of him is his father Alberich, who addresses him in his sleep, warning him to be true, and to obtain the ring. Hagen, still dreaming, replies, "I shall have the ring, wait in peace!" "Dost thou swear it to me, Hagen, my hero?" "I swear it to myself; be not anxious!" Alberich gradually vanishes, and his last words are heard, "Be true, Hagen, my son, be true—true!" Siegfried suddenly steps from behind a bush on the shore, as the morning dawns, and wakes Hagen, who summons Gutrune to hear the success of the adventure. To them he recounts his courting of Brünnhilde, under the likeness of Gunther, and tells them how he had kept faith with his friend, by placing his sword between himself and the bride. Gunther and Brünnhilde are already on their way, and Gutrune, followed by Siegfried,

enters the house to prepare for their reception. Hagen, by blowing an ox-horn, summons the retainers of the house of Gibich, ostensibly to receive the bridal pair, but really to aid in his designs against Siegfried. A boat approaches, in which are Gunther and Brünnhilde. They land; the latter pale, and with downcast eyes, slowly follows Gunther; Siegfried and Gutrune come out of the house, and Gunther salutes them by name. At the mention of Siegfried, Brünnhilde for the first time looks up, but, to her astonishment and horror, Siegfried does not know her. She sees her ring on his finger, and asks him how he came by it, for that Gunther had snatched it from her. Siegfried replies that he had not received the ring from him. She turns to Gunther, and asks where was the ring that he took from her? But he knows nothing of it, and remains speechless. Brünnhilde then sees the true state of the case, and declares that Siegfried was the treacherous thief who tore the ring from her. Siegfried, who in consequence of the potion he had drunk has no recollection of any of the incidents of his connexion with Brünnhilde, replies truly enough that he knew the ring well, and that he took it from the dragon that he had slain. Brünnhilde, beside herself with fury, declares that he is a traitor, and that it is to him, not to Gunther, that she is married. Siegfried reminds her that she is wronging her own good name, and tells all how he had separated himself from her by means of the sword. Brünnhilde, from a loving woman now transformed into a raging fiend, is utterly reckless of her own reputation, and declares that he lies. Gunther, Gutrune and the vassals call upon Siegfried to clear himself, and he takes a solemn oath on the point of Hagen's spear that he has kept faith with his brother. Brünnhilde steps furiously forward, pushes Siegfried aside, and swears that he is a traitor and a perjurer. Siegfried attempts to comfort Gunther with the assurance that she will soon come to herself, and with Gutrune and the vassals retires into the hall to prepare for the wedding-meal. Brünnhilde, Gunther and Hagen alone remain. Hagen offers to avenge Brünnhilde's wrongs, but with a bitter smile she tells him he is powerless. He asks whether Siegfried's treachery is proof against his spear, and she says that she has charmed him against all wounds, and that in fight nothing can hurt him. "Yet," she adds, "if thou dost strike him in the back—I well knew that he would never turn his back to an enemy; that, therefore, I did not charm." "And there," replies Hagen, "my spear shall pierce him." Gunther is still unwilling to believe in his friend's treachery, till Brünnhilde tells him that he had been deceived, and that all the blood in the world would not expiate the offence. Gunther at length reluctantly consents, and it is arranged that a hunting-party shall be formed on the morrow, and that Hagen will then have his opportunity. The three unite in an oath of vengeance, and Siegfried and Gutrune, with the attendants, meet them as they enter the hall to the bridal feast.

It is impossible, without quoting the entire dialogue, to give any idea of the sustained force and passion of this great scene, which seems to rush along like a flood of boiling lava. There is nothing more impressive in tragedy than this second act; and, it may be added, there are few scenes more imperatively requiring the highest order of acting to render them adequately.

After the stress and storm of what has passed the opening of the third act is a most grateful relief. The scene is a wooded and hilly spot on the banks of the Rhine. The three Rhine-daughters, whom we met in the first scene of the *Rheingold*, are swimming in the waters, but there is an indefinable difference in the character of their song. One feels its affinity with what we have heard before, but all its light-heartedness is gone. They have lost the Rhine-gold, and their sole anxiety now is to recover it. Siegfried ap-

pears on an overhanging crag, and they ask him for the ring, which he refuses. Half in sport, half in earnest, they accuse him of greed, and, telling him he ought to be generous to ladies, dive below the waters. He knows nothing of the value of the ring, and calls to them that if they will come he will give it them. They reappear, but now earnestly warn him against the danger connected with it. They tell him that a curse is on the ring, and that it will cause his death that very day. These words, however, have the opposite effect to that intended: though ready enough to part with it, he will not be frightened into giving it up; and the Rhine-daughters leave him, saying "A proud woman will this day inherit what is thine; she will give us better hearing!" Gunther, Hagen and the retainers now approach; they have missed Siegfried in the chase, and ask him how it has fared with his hunting. He says that the only quarry he had found was three wild water-fowl, who had told him he was to be slain that day. The whole party sit down in the shade to rest; the drinking-horns are passed round. Hagen asks Siegfried if the report that he understands the song of birds is true. Siegfried replies that he has forgotten it since he heard the voices of women. He offers to sing Gunther stories of his young days; a circle is formed round him, and he begins. He tells how he was brought up by Mime, how he forged the sword Nothung, and slew Fafner with it, how when he tasted the blood of the dragon he understood the song of the bird. Hagen interrupts him to offer him a drink which shall revive his memory. Siegfried drinks, and proceeds with his narrative, telling as his memory returns exactly what we already know from the second act of *Siegfried*. At the first mention of Brünnhilde's name, Gunther is astonished; but when Siegfried sings how his kiss awakened her, his friend understands all that is past. At that moment two ravens start out of a bush, hover over Siegfried, and fly away. Hagen asks if he understands what those ravens say. Siegfried turns round to look after them, and thus exposes his back to Hagen, who pierces it with his spear. Gunther in vain attempts to arrest the blow. Hagen declares that he has taken vengeance for perjury, and turns slowly away. Siegfried dies with Brünnhilde's name on his lips. The retainers raise the corpse on a shield, and bear it away in solemn procession, Gunther following.

The final scene shows us once more the hall of the Gibichungen. It is night, and Guttrune, who is anxious for Siegfried's return, comes out of her chamber. Evil dreams disturbed her sleep; she hears his horse whinnying wildly; Brünnhilde's laughter had awakened her; she had seen her going down to the Rhine; she fears the woman, and longs to see Siegfried once more. The voice of Hagen is heard calling to her, and the funeral procession enters with torches and firebrands. At the sight of the corpse Guttrune faints; on coming to herself, she accuses her brother of her husband's murder. Gunther replies that it is Hagen who has killed him, and Hagen boldly avows the deed, saying that the spear on the point of which Siegfried had perjured himself had avenged treachery. He therefore claims the ring as booty. Gunther declares that it belongs to Guttrune; Hagen draws his sword, and says that the son claims his father's inheritance. They fight, and Gunther is killed; once more the curse has worked! Hagen goes to snatch the ring from Siegfried's finger; to the consternation of all, the dead man's hand is raised with a threatening gesture. At this moment Brünnhilde slowly and solemnly steps forward from the background. His wife, whom all have betrayed, will avenge the hero. Guttrune accuses Brünnhilde as the cause of all this evil, in that she had stirred up the men against Siegfried. "Silence, wretched woman!" replies Brünnhilde. "Thou wast never his wife, thou wast only his concubine. I am his lawful wedded wife, to whom Siegfried swore eternal oaths, before ever

he saw thee!" Guttrune in despair now understands that it is through Hagen's accursed potion that Siegfried has been made to forget Brünnhilde; she turns away and leans over her brother's corpse in the deepest grief. Brünnhilde orders a funeral pyre to be erected, on which Siegfried's body is placed, and then, in a speech of wonderful poetical beauty and pathos, does justice to the character of the departed hero. As her inheritance she claims the fearful ring; from her ashes the Rhine-daughters shall receive it once more; the fire that consumes her shall purify the ring from its curse. The end of the gods is at hand; for the flames rising from the funeral pyre shall ascend to Walhalla; the old dynasty shall pass away, and the reign of love take its place. She throws a firebrand into the midst of the pile, which immediately blazes up. Her horse is brought in: at the sight of him her old Walkyriature returns; in tumultuous joy she addresses her steed—he and his mistress shall be united for ever with Siegfried. She springs hastily on to her horse's back, and at one bound vaults into the midst of the flames. At once they rise, so as to fill the whole stage and the hall itself. Suddenly they disappear, and a thick smoke fills the air; when it clears away we see that the Rhine has overflowed its banks, and spread over the burning pyre, even to the threshold of the hall. On its waves swim the three Rhine-daughters. At the sight of them, Hagen is seized with the utmost terror; crying "Back from the ring!" he plunges madly in the flood. Woglinde and Wellgunde encircle his neck with their arms, and drag him down in the depths, while Flosshilde swims before them, holding the ring triumphantly aloft. A red glare is seen in the sky; it becomes gradually more distinct, and the hall of Walhalla is seen, with gods and heroes assembled, as in Waltraute's description in the first act. Fire breaks out in the hall of the gods, and when everything is enveloped in the flames the curtain falls.

I fear I have already trespassed very largely upon the patience of my readers; but the poem of the *Ring des Nibelungen* is so elaborate that to do anything like justice to it would require at least a volume. As it is, I have given only a very meagre outline of this most remarkable libretto, dealing merely with its externals. Into its deeper bearing, the many most interesting details, its delineations of character, and, most of all, that wonderful internal coherence which gives it the appearance of an organic growth rather than of a series of incidents skilfully put together, it is impossible to enter. For these points readers must study the poem for themselves. Next week a few remarks will be made on the music to which the text is wedded. EBENEZER PROUT.

THE Balfie Memorial Festival, held at the Alexandra Palace on Saturday last, was numerously attended, and proved in every respect a success. The performance of the ever-popular *Bohemian Girl*, ably conducted by Mr. Weist Hill, left nothing to be desired, notwithstanding the change of arrangements which was found necessary almost at the last moment. The opera was preceded by a concert in the Great Central Hall, under the direction of Sir Michael Costa, at which Mesdames Christine Nilsson and Marie Rose, and Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Maybrick assisted. In addition to some well-chosen vocal selections from *Il Talismano*, the MS. overture to this opera was performed for the first time, and elicited marks of genuine enthusiasm.

THERE are rumours of the postponement of the Glasgow Musical Festival, which was to have taken place in November next. Prof. Macfarren had completed a new cantata, composed expressly for this event, and entitled the *Lady of the Lake*.

THE preparations for the Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival are far advanced, and the decorations in the Town Hall, said to be of a costly and tasteful character, are nearly completed. In addition

to Prof. Macfarren's new oratorio, the *Resurrection*, referred to by us last week, performances will be given of Wagner's *Holy Supper*, Gade's *Zion* (composed for the occasion), a new cantata by F. H. Cowen, entitled the *Corsair*, and *Elijah*, St. Paul, and the *Messiah*. The principal vocalists will be Mdlla. Titiens, Mdme. Lemmens-Sherington, Mdlla. Albani, Mdme. Patey, Mdme. Trebelli Bettini; Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Santley, Mr. Cecil Tovey, and Signor Foli.

MDME. CHRISTINE NILSSON has offered two prizes, one of 20 gs. and another of 10 gs., to be awarded by the Royal Academy of Music in July next year, to female singers who shall have been students in that institution throughout the whole academical year, and who shall be judged to sing best and second best a song of Handel, and a ballad (to be selected by the committee) suitable respectively for soprano, mezzo-soprano, and contralto voices. Each prize will be presented in a casket bearing the name of Christine Nilsson together with that of the successful competitor.

AFTER assisting at a series of about twelve concerts in the months of August and September at Stockholm and various towns in Sweden, Mdme. Christine Nilsson will proceed to Belgium and Holland. Later in the autumn arrangements will be made for a tour through the larger towns of Austria, Hungary, and Germany. At Vienna this vocalist will appear at the Hofopertheater in the parts of Ophelia, Mignon, Gretchen, &c.

HERR A. LANGERT, composer of the operas *Des Sünchers Fluch*, *Die Fabier*, and *Dornröschen*, has been appointed by the Duke conductor of the Court Theatre at Coburg.

THROUGH a slip in our Music Notes last week, Mr. Barnett's oratorio *The Raising of Lazarus* was spoken of as "composed for the Hereford Festival." The work is not a new one, having been first produced in London at the fourth concert of the New Philharmonic Society in 1873.

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